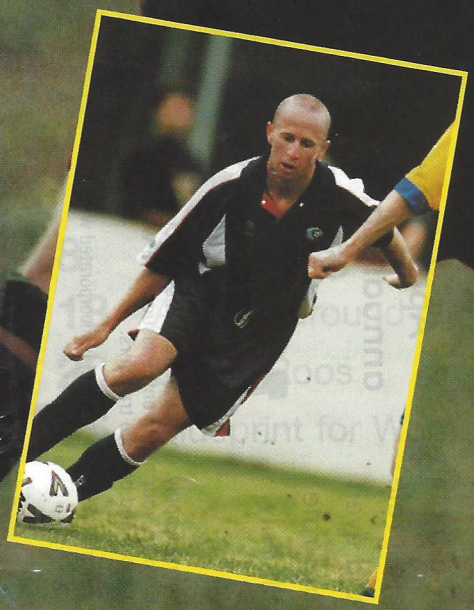
January 6, 2000 Vol 9 Issue 1 $3.00

# SuperSoccer

- Form Guide to Super League 2000
- Young Talent Time
- Local 'Roos



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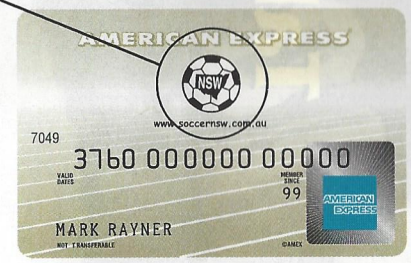


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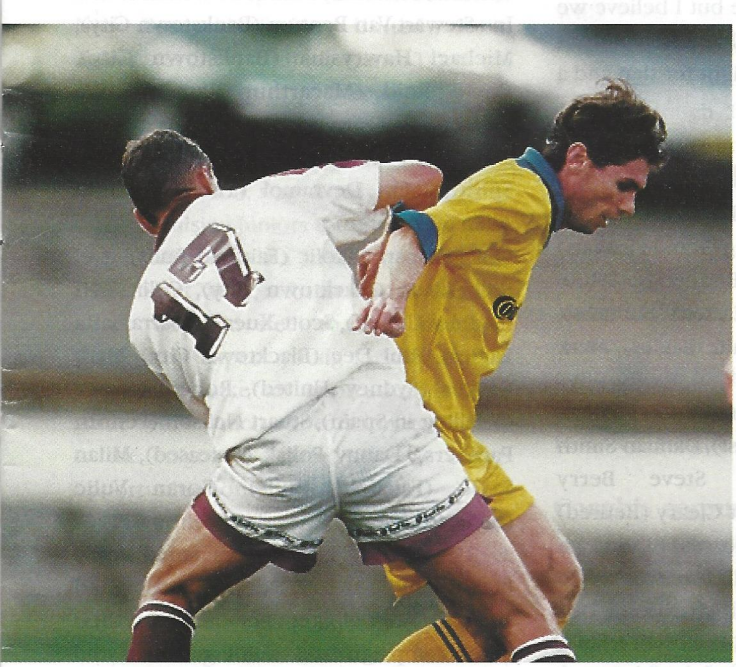
# Contents



## Form Guide


**4** The complete guide to 'ins and outs' in Super League 2000, with Greg Stock.

**8** Crytsal Ball on Super League

**18** Annual Ground Guide!

**26** Local 'Roos

**36** Blueprint for Women's Soccer


## Regular Features


**7** The coaches
This week: Stan Ackerley

**10** Super League Squads

**25** NSL

**37** Super Soccer Crossword

**38** Editorial


*Front Cover Photographs: Main - St George and Penrith battled it out in Division One in 1999, but step up to Super League in 2000. Inset - Peter Preston (Central Coast), 1999 Gold Medal winner; Jess Van Stratten and Mark Byrnes of the Joeys.*

# CHANGE OF SEASON FORM GUIDE

***Super Soccer's Greg Stock takes a look at 'ins' and 'outs' for each of the fourteen teams over the close season and assesses their chances in the new-look Super League 2000.***

## BANKSTOWN CITY

Coach: Lube Jancev (1st Season)
Last Season : 5th (Beaten Semi-Finalists)
In: Lube Jancev (Coach), Tony Trpcevski (Illawarra Lions), Goce Trposki (Rockdale City Suns), Goran Vulic (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Sasha Talevski (Fairfield Bulls), Michael Lemezina (Fairfield Bulls)
Out: Zoki Adioski (Leichhardt Tigers), Stewart Van Bentum (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Michael Hawrysiuk (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Mile Todoroski (Rockdale City Suns), Leo Premutico (Eastern Suburbs), Damian Luksic (Fairfield Bulls), Paul Bentvelzen (Macarthur Rams), Alex Trposki (Parramatta Eagles)

Never a side to under-estimate, the Lions have former Championship winning coach Lube Jancev back at the helm. The loss of livewire forward Adioski and midfielder Hawrysiuk are huge blows but their talented junior squads always seem capable of providing the necessary talent to step up and fill the breach. Much in attack will depend on the Issa brothers (Robert and George) and Trposki and Trpcevski who step up from the first division to form a speedy forward line. While their experienced midfielder Mendo Lozevski should get them around the park their lack of overall squad depth means they may just struggle to match it with the top sides.

Player to Watch - Zlatko Josevski - Still only a baby in goalkeeping terms, Josevski proved his quality with an inspired performance in the semi-final against Parramatta Eagles last season. While he was sent off late in the game for a deliberate handball many in the press box predicted the score against the Lions would have been much worse had he not played. A young player with loads of potential he will be an asset to a young team looking for experience.

### Coach's Comment - Lube Jancev

"We are a very young side but I believe we can do the job. This club has a tremendous reputation and we must fight for that and a spot in the top five."

## BLACKTOWN CITY

Coach : Brian Brown (2nd Season)
Last Season : 2nd (Winning Grand-Finalists)
In : Paul Richardson (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Naoki Imaya (Eastern Suburbs), Paul Dee (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Mark Hagger (Marconi)
Out : Jon Angelucci (Parramatta Power), Steve Cutler (Central Coast), Damian Smith (Newcastle Breakers), Steve Berry (Parramatta Power), Stuart Cleary (Retired)

To cover some key losses, Blacktown City has recruited in all three areas to strengthen their squad. Richardson , Dee and the hugely talented Imaya will from a strong combination in midfield, while up-front former Marconi junior Mark Hagger will be there to partner Jason Bennett. Another solid squad has been assembled though, if anywhere, they may lack a little up front. Every side will look to beat the Demons but come semi-final time they are sure to be thereabouts.

Player to Watch - Paul Dee - An experienced player at three NSL clubs (Wollongong, Canberra Cosmos and Marconi), but in recent seasons his star has faded as persistent injuries have limited his contributions. There are few midfielders in Super League who can match his skill and ability and Bonnyrigg's loss is definitely Blacktown's gain. His combination with Paul Richardson will make sure the Blacktown forwards are well supplied with quality ball.

### Coach's Comment - Brian Brown

"We'll be there or thereabouts with the squad we've got.

I think it will be a lot tougher for us this year because everyone is out to beat us but I'm quietly confident we'll do well."

## BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES

Coach : John Turner (4th Season)
1999 Finishing Position : 1st (Beaten Semi-Finalists)
In : Stewart Van Bentum (Bankstown City), Michael Hawrysiuk (Bankstown City), David Reid (Macarthur Rams), Sasha Utjesenovic (Parramatta Eagles), Lee Gunn (Marconi), Paul Candalorri (Northern Spirit), Tafan Devramol (Turkey), Trinity Allen (St George)
Out : Roman Nikolic (Fairfield Bulls), Paul Richardson (Blacktown City), Colin Luff (Sydney United), Scott Xuereb (Parramatta Eagles), Paul Dee (Blacktown City), Mark Racker (Sydney United), Robert Gomez (Trialling in Spain), Stuart Neilson (Penrith Panthers), Danny Poljak (Released), Milan Savic (Fairfield Bulls), Goran Vulic (Bankstown City)

The loss of key players could really hurt Bonnyrigg. Luff, Dee, Richardson and Xuereb were all key personnel in their 1999 campaign and a lot rests on the younger players in Bonnyrigg's squad. The signings of quality replacements in Van Bentum, Hawrysiuk and Reid for the mid-field and Utjesenovic for the defence will help but it seems John Turner could well find himself looking through his youth squad to fill some gaps. Having Trinity Allen in the ranks will also strengthen the goalkeeping stocks which was a major headache for Bonnyrigg last season

Player to Watch - Sasha Utjesenovic - The son of former Socceroo legend Doug, Sasha can play either as a stopper or a sweeper. Since graduating from the AIS, Sasha has been one of Parramatta Eagles' best performers as he battles week in week out marking the best forwards in Super League. He is one who John Turner will rely heavily on as he seeks to balance his young squad.

### Coach's Comment - John Turner

"We will be very competitive and it will be disappointing if we are not in the top five. I've got a lot of faith in the young boys I've assembled and we'll be there when the whips are cracking."

## CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE

Coach : John Xipolitas (3rd Season)
1999 Finishing Position : 8th
In : Frank Mikuletic (Leichhardt Tigers), Jose Bello-Amigo (St George), Daniel Georgakopoulos (Junior Club), Scott Wells (Central Coast)
Out : Mathew Shepherd (Eastern Suburbs), Nick Bosevski (Sydney United), Steve Tolios (Sydney United), Jane Talcevski (Leichhardt Tigers), Terry Palapanis (Released)

Another team to lose key personnel from last season, Canterbury will look to their promising juniors to take up the challenge. Mikuletic is a key signing in goals while Scott Wells, a former youth international, will add steel to their midfield. Canterbury expect young forward Adrian Vizzari to make an impression in first grade while much expectation again falls to the enigmatic Jimmy Nikas to create opportunities on the forward line.

Player to Watch - Jimmy Nikas - On his day Nikas is the type of player who can change the course of a game off his own boot. On other days you'd hardly notice him at all. A graduate of the AIS, Nikas has had some National League experience but a regular career has so far eluded him. He will again expected to be the focus of the Canterbury attack and will carry most of their hopes with it.

### Coach's Comment - John Xipolitas

"If lady luck decides to come with us, we'll do very well, but it all depends on lady luck."

## CENTRAL COAST

Coaches : Dale Eggleton (Senior Coach), Andrew Ollier and Terry Greedy (All 1st Season) 1999 Finishing Position : 10th
In : Andrew Ollier and Dale Eggleton (Coaches), Shane Knight (Macarthur Rams), Peter Ritchie (Newcastle Breakers), Adam Peatey (Ryde City), Paul Roberts (Newcastle Breakers), Steve Cutler (Blacktown City), Shaun Mathews (Wallsend NNSW), Darren Moore (Broadmeadow NNSW)
Out : Allan Bourke (Coach), Steve Angelov (NNSW), Scott Wells (Canterbury-Marrickville)

A unique setup with the coaching staff at Pluim Park, sees former Coasties' players, Dale Eggleton and Andrew Ollier, in conjunction with former Socceroo Terry Greedy, form a panel of three. All three are focused on the job at hand and have recruited a number of experienced personnel to bolster their squad. The Coasties midfield looks tough and hardworking with Peatey, Ritchie and Roberts joining Preston and Sontag while at the back Steve Cutler and Shaun Mathews will certainly make it tough for opposing forwards. Although still short a quality striker their strong midfield and defence will make sure they do not concede too many goals.
Player to Watch - Shane Knight - Knight returns home to the Coast after a season at Macarthur Rams. Normally a wide midfielder he can play in the centre and his contribution to the Coasties' engine room alongside Preston and Sontag should prove to be a highlight.

### Coach's comment : Dale Eggleton

"I'm looking to develop some consistency and teamwork in the side. With 14 teams in the competition the teams that can develop the consistency will be the ones in the semi-finals."

## EASTERN SUBURBS

Coach : John Callega (2nd Season)
1999 Finishing Position : 12th
In : Jimmy Aschner (Macarthur Rams), Craig Sharpley (Ryde City), Mathew Shepherd (Canterbury-Marrickville), Mathew Dihm (Year Off), John Pillemer (Leichhardt Tigers), David Segreto (Ryde City) , Talat Kice (Germany), Leo Premutico (Bankstown City), Ben Digham (Canberra Deakin)
Out : Naoki Imaya (Blacktown City), Adam Mark (University of N.S.W.), Mark Beldham (Manly Warringah), George Maglis (St George), Max Sevares (St George)

Easts have recruited well in a bid to become one of the forces of Super League. They have strengthened their squad in all positions but the most important ones come on the forward line with Jimmy Aschner and Talat Kice. Kice played last season in the German second division and comes with a big reputation. Sharpley is a key recruit in midfield while Matty Dihm back after a season off with injury, David Segreto and Matt Shepherd will again add some experience to a backline that leaked badly in 1999.
Player to Watch - Talat Kice - In a recent trial match against Sutherland, Kice impressed the small crowd with his speed and touch and an uncanny ability to sniff out a goal. After playing in the German second division last season, Kice should prove a revelation in the Easts colours once he becomes used to Australian conditions. His partnership with Jimmy Aschner will certainly be one to watch.

### Coach's Comment - John Callega

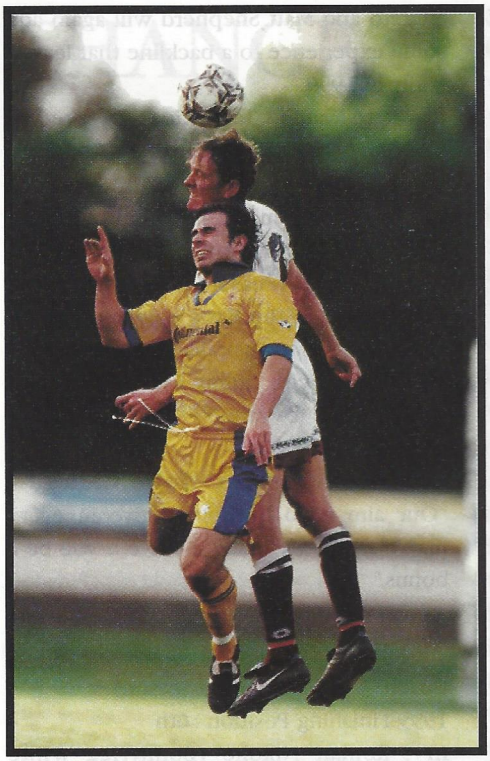
"Our aim is to be competitive in every match and if we make the five it will be a bonus."

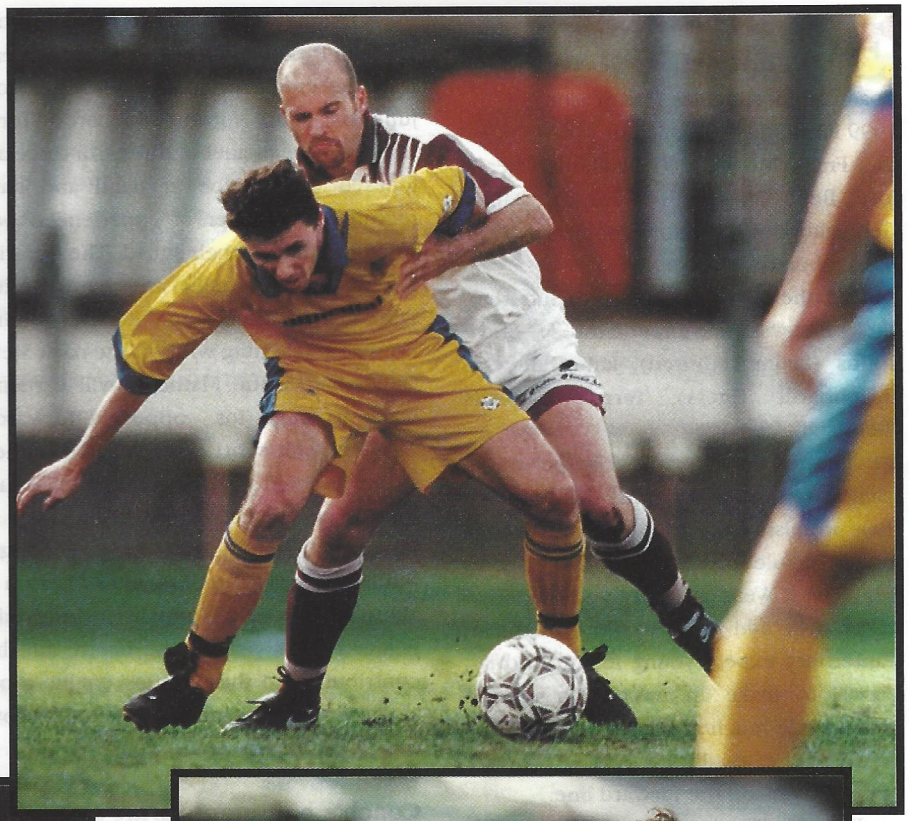
## FAIRFIELD BULLS

Coach : Joe Watson (2nd season)
1999 Finishing Position : 6th
In : Roman Nikolic (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Milan Savic (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Devram Hussein (Marconi), Damian Luksic (Bankstown City), Fernando Pellagrini (Marconi)
Out : Martin Driene (Penrith Panthers), Robert Grubba (Fraser Park), Jason Falzon, Sasha Talevski (Bankstown City), Michael Lemezina (Bankstown City)

Things have been quiet out Fairfield way but hardworking coach 'Jinky' Joe Watson will again assemble a quality squad for this season's campaign. His star forward pairing of Borg and Hoenselaars will again be the cornerstone of their game and if these two get the quality ball from midfield that they need they could again prove to be hard to beat. Sam Larocca returns from injury to strengthen the midfield after only 3 appearances in 1999 and young Devram Hussein from Marconi seems to be settling in well. Their lack of squad depth could be a problem if key players get injured but overall their first eleven appears strong and well balanced.
Player to Watch - Marc Hoenselaars - Since moving down the road to Fairfield last year, its been nothing but goals from the former Bonnyrigg striker. His partnership with Mathew Borg almost single-handedly lifted the Bulls into the semi-finals in '99 with 32 of the sides 45 goals accredited to their partnership. Has been struggling in pre-

continued on page 28...





# The Coaches:

# Penriths Stan "The Man" Ackerley

***Each week, Super Soccer will be talking with a coach of a Super League team. We kick-off our series with Greg Stock's profile of Penrith Panthers' Stan Ackerley. As a player, Stan Ackerley has achieved just about everything the game of soccer could offer.***

Born in England and emigrating to Australia in the early 60s, the former Manchester United youth team player quickly turned what was to be a two year playing stint in Australia to a lifetime of football. In a long list of playing highlights his achievements include 30 appearances in the national side, two World Cup campaigns, the Socceroo captaincy, three premierships and an Australian Cup with APIA Leichhardt.

His style was unique. As a defender, his ball skills were stylish if at times flamboyant, but in an era where a strong physical physique was a winning commodity he was tough and uncompromising. Ackerley etched himself into Australian soccer folklore as a player in the 'golden era' of APIA Leichhardt through the 60s and 70s. Alongside names like Joe Marston, Ernie Campbell, Pat Hughes and Johnny Watkiss, he became one of the most admired and respected names in Australian soccer.

When he finally hung up his boots in the mid 70s, Stan Ackerley transposed these qualities to his coaching. Stints with sides including Arncliffe Scots, Blacktown City, Bonnyrigg White Eagles all groomed him for what he now calls his "dream job" as coach of the ambitious Penrith side. After six seasons with the club, Ackerley has bought Penrith up from the lower reaches of State League to the division one Grand Final last season culminating with a promotion to Super League in 2000.

All of these achievements have come from the club's commitment to its local juniors. Penrith has given a start to many of its best local products and avoided the temptation to dip into the transfer market. Ackerley has even gone to great lengths to encourage some of the players who have left the area back home, including son Chris and son-in-law Mike Gibson. With an equally ambitious committee to support him, it's been a recipe for success that has served the club well.

With the season just around the corner Stan is a hive of information. Like a boasting father the conversation revolved around his team, a group of relative unknowns in Super League, but for many of whom Stan predicts a bright future.

"We've got a young local boy in Allan Picken at 18 and he has been outstanding for me in the midfield since he started playing first grade at 16. Danny Hinton is another who has been around one or two clubs but he is a local boy and should do really well. At the back we have Luke Martin in goals and Benny Wright at sweeper with Bob Casserley formerly of Leichhardt. Steve Sweeney has been around at Blacktown and Macarthur and he is only 25 years old so there is still a lot of football in this lad. Jason Lewis is another who is starting to come along too. If we can keep these lads on the paddock and bring some of the younger players through like Daniel Lownds, we'll do very well."

Despite depending on his team of youngsters Ackerley has also bolstered his squad with the inclusion of a couple of what he terms "old heads" signing former Fairfield Bulls defender Martin Driene to partner Bob Casserley and his son Chris who plays in midfield.

"Martin Driene is an exceptionally good player and he'll be a big, big plus. The bonus is he has only just turned 30. I've had to sign some older players to complement these young lads who have seemingly come from nowhere in the past two years. In going up to Super League we have got to make allowances for them in the next twelve months to allow them to become accustomed to it."

It's a philosophy that Ackerley has developed since his playing days.

"That's what happened back in my APIA days. Names like Ernie Campbell and Terry Butler learnt from playing with the likes of Iglesias, Pat Hughes, Giacometti. It's the only way the young players learn."

With a long season ahead Ackerley is making some allowances for his side but predicts they will not be the easy beats.

"In the first year we are looking to consolidate and finish midtable. If the lads play to their potential I don't see why we can't achieve that."

With a strong home crowd behind them an away trip to Penrith is not going to be an easy assignment for any side. Stan Ackerley will make damn sure of that.

*Stan "The Man" Ackerley in his playing days.*

**FACT FILE**

Stan Ackerley
Date of Birth: 12 July 1942
Socceroo Appearances: 30 (27 'A' internationals); Captain 1968-1969
Clubs (as a player): Manchester United (England), Slavia (Melbourne), APIA Leichhardt, Toongabbie (Blacktown City)
Clubs (as a coach): Toongabbie, Arncliffe Scots, Avala (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Blacktown City, Penrith Panthers

Craig Sharpley (Ryde) and David Reid (Macarthur) battle it out.

# CRYSTAL BALL ON SUPER LEAGUE

***Super League 2000 promises to be one of the most evenly contested in a long time - for while the traditionally strong clubs like Blacktown City, Bonnyrigg and Leichhardt are rebuilding this season, perennial strugglers such as Central Coast and Eastern Suburbs are looking much more in tune.***

***Greg Stock and Paul Goodwin look at each club's prospects - and boldly predict where they will end up!***

## BANKSTOWN CITY LIONS

Bankstown could be back to their best this season with the return of Lube Jancev as coach and the recruitment of players of the calibre of Goce Trposki, Tony Trpcevski and Sasha Talevski. The Lions are bound to challenge strongly again. Young Trposki was a revelation for Rockdale last season where he scored almost a goal a game at one stage for the Suns. It is never easy to assess the prospects for Bankstown, who can often be an entertaining side, but not a consistent one. If they can settle quickly and keep things tight they may yet regain those heights of earlier years.

Super Soccer prediction: Mid table.

## BLACKTOWN CITY DEMONS

Blacktown City have brought in Paul Dee and Paul Richardson from Bonnyrigg as well as Naoki Imaya from Easts and Mark Hagger from Marconi youth. There is also strong talk that former Brunswick Juventus star Sean Lane will be joining them. The loss of Jon Angelucci and Stuart Cleary will still be felt, but after the settling in period

we should again see the Demons right on the money, with Jason Bennett to the fore once more leading the attack.

Super Soccer prediction: Third at best this season

## BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES

Bonnyrigg have had a mass clear-out, but will expect big things from their newcomers such as David Read from Macarthur and both Stewart Van Bentum and Michael Hawrysuik from Bankstown, for starters. Traditionally slow starters, that has never stopped them in the past from winning premiership or grand finals and it would be dangerous to assume that this season will be any different.

Super Soccer prediction: Potential winners once again

## CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE

Canterbury are always an enigma. They don't really appear to be any stronger than last year, but it may not be merely a case of personnel, rather the retention of a more settled side that gets them better results. Jim Nikas is there again and if he fires and combines well with the likes of Scott Wells it should be a Berries season to savour, but that is not said with much confidence.

Super Soccer prediction: Likely to struggle this season

## CENTRAL COAST

Central Coast have a big coaching change this year, with Andrew Ollier helping Dale Eggleton to re-fashion the Coasties, who now have Shane Knight and Paul Roberts back in the fold and newcomers like Shaun Matthews from Wallsend and Darren Moore from Broadmeadow to strengthen the squad. This club looks to be really going places.

Super Soccer prediction: Will hover on the brink of the five all season

## EASTERN SUBURBS

Eastern Suburbs are likely to awake from their slumber and claim a spot among the leading contenders this season. They have brought back Matthew Dihm and Craig Sharpley and have uncovered a few mystery men from England and Germany to add some spice to the line up. Steve McComb, a midfielder "with attitude" according to his coach John Calleja, is back and firing on all cylinders again, while midfield workhorse Rudi Jerkovic backs up for his 9th season with the Wanderers. Also, once fit, Jim Aschner will be a huge boost in attack and Leo Premutico, brought in from Bankstown, will keep Con Anastasiadis honest for the keeper's jersey.

Super Soccer prediction: Will surprise many and occupy a spot in the top half of the table.

## FAIRFIELD BULLS

Fairfield Bulls are being widely tipped as contenders this time around, with the dual strike force of Matthew Borg and Marc Hoenselaars again a potentially lethal strike force. Their problem will be depth should either or both of these linchpins of the attack be mown down with injuries. The addition of Roman Nikolic and Milan Savic from Bonnyrigg should compensate for the loss of Martin Driene and Jason Falzon, but there are many question marks about the Bulls in 2000.

Super Soccer prediction: May not reach the heights of last season and could drop below the middle

## LEICHHARDT TIGERS

Leichhardt Tigers have been busy in the off-season, signing a new coach in Les DeCelis and bringing in many new players. Zoki Adioski had a good season for Bankstown in 1999, especially in the first part of the season and has the experience to settle in quickly. Fellow recruit Jane Talcevski and Joe Bruni should make selections in the forward line very competitive each weekend, with Chris Lansdown also well in contention like last year. The additions of Andrew Dowling and Andrew Nicol are big plusses, but the newcomers' list is a long one and much will depend on how long they all take to gel.

Super Soccer prediction: Title contenders at last

## MACARTHUR RAMS

Macarthur Rams look to be up against it; a new, unproven coach in Brian Dene who took over very late last season and the loss of a few key players will hit the Rams hard. Kain Rastall and Trevor Whiddett will be sadly missed, as will Aschner, Knight and Dion Valle. The replacements do not look to be of the same quality.

Maybe bringing in an experienced defender might help, bearing in mind that Martin Bourke will still be there to provide class, toughness and leadership.

Eric Williams is still around too and always a threat to defences everywhere.

Super Soccer prediction: It's going to be a hard year.

## MANLY WARRINGAH

Manly Warringah are bound to struggle, even with the return of Mark Beldham, as they have lost two key forwards from last season and have no funds to splash out in the transfer market. While they will fight hard it seems doubtful that they can do more than survive at this level on present playing resources. With barely a fortnight to the start of the season they had still not

Continued on page 17...

# ROUND 1 SUPER LEAGUE

**Nineveh Field - Saturday 8 January - Kick Off 7.00pm**

## Fairfield BULLS

1. Dragon Pupovac
2. Chris Giometti
3. Phil Treharn
4. Damien Luksic
5. Michael Vrankovic
6. Salvatore Larocca
7. George Zabetakis
8. Paul Bourke
9. Mark Hoenselaars
10. Matthew Borg
11. Darren Iocca
12. Devrin Huseyin
14. Roman Nikolic
15. Michael Cavallaro
16. Milan Savic
20. Sean Cahill
22. Fernando Pelligrino

**Team Colours**

White with Red Shirts
White with Red Shorts
White Socks
Alternate (Navy)
Blue with White Shirts
Blue with WhiteShorts
Blue with White Socks
Coach: Joe Watson

## Central Coast COASTIES

1. Gary Meier
2. Shaun Matthews
3. Marcus Steele
4. Mark Drysdale
5. Adam Peatey
6. Steve Cutler
7. Peter Preston
8. Shane Knight
9. Nathan Byrn
10. Paul Roberts
11. Peter Ritchie
13. Brent Demery
14. Aaron Binskin
15. Wes Bennett
16. Ryan Marshall
17. Brett Jaeger
18. Mitchell Daley
19. Stuart Sontag
22. Darren Moore

**Team Colours**

White Shirts
Navy Blue Shorts
Navy Blue Socks
Coach: DALE EGGLETON

### UNDER 21'S 5.00pm

**FAIRFIELD**

1. SEAN CAHILL
2. CHARLIE AKLE
3. GELVIN SHUKUR
4. GARRY MYLES
6. JOSHUA VLAHOS
7. JOE BARILLA
8. DANIEL BUCKLEY
9. ZAIA KHNANISHO
10. DAVID DIURSO
11. EDVIN SEJRANOVIC
12. ROCKY SARKIS
16. NINOS BOBO
17. ALLAN WAWI

COACH: DANNY ABBOUD

**COAST**

1. MATT COLLITS
2. TRAVIS MAUDE
3. MITCHELL DALEY
4. DAN MORRIS
5. NICK PURER
6. MICK COATES
7. STEPHEN BECH
8. DANE HOKIN
9. DANIEL SURRIDGE
10. CAL ROPER
11. RYAN MCKENDRICK
12. SHAUN BREWER

COACH: ANDREW OLLIER

### UNDER 18'S 3.00pm

**FAIRFIELD**

1. STEVEN MINOVSKI
2. DALE FILLINGHAM
3. CRAIG SPEECHLEY
4. PAUL MCDERMOTT
5. HAYDEN SCHNEIDER
6. PETER CARBONE
7. PHILLIP BADOLATO
8. SARGON GERWAGIS
9. DIEGO GOURGUES
10. STEPHEN GALLARDO
11. ADAM SAMUEL
12. TIM DURIC
13. MATHEW SPINKS
14. STAVROS ARZAPITIAN
15. CHRIS ZERBINIS
16. CHRIS MICALLIF
17. EDDIE EYOU
20. NICK BUCCIARELLI

COACH: SAM ISAAC

**COAST**

1. SCOTT HORVATT
2. SCOTT JONES
3. NICK MORRIS
4. MICHAEL COOK
5. JASON DONNELLY
6. JASON MCMINIMEE
7. MARC FALZON
8. SHANE MCPARLAND
9. PETER FALLA
10. NICK WELLS
11. JAMES PERRY
12. JEFF HALL
13. STEPHEN RAYNER
14. DAVID BREWER
15. PETER LEARY
16. JUSTIN SELKIRK
17. NATHAN CARMODY
20. DANIEL KENNEDY

**Fairfield BULLS**

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**Assyrian Australian Association**
**Nineveh Club Limited**

# SUPER LEAGUE ROUND 1

**Seymour Shaw - Saturday 8 January - Kick Off 7.00pm**

## Sutherland SHARKS

SUTHERLAND SHIRE

**Team Colours**

Blue, White & Black Shirts
Black Shorts
Black Socks
Coach: John lavin

1. Dennes Olla
2. Adam Daley
3. David Tedesco
4. Clint Harrod
5. Eduardo Giraldo
6. Hakon Carlsson
7. Con Paradisis
8. Cord Tolson
9. Ali Salim
10. Matt Merralls
11. Kris Karanasos
12. Craig Hobbs
13. Jimmy Corbo
14. Malcolm Bideau
15. Phil Wurth
16. Dejan Ristovski
17. Aaron Harris

## LEICHHARDT TIGERS

1. Shaun Woods
2. Jeremy Pettenon
3. Blago Milicevic
4. Andrew Dowling
5. Michael Galluzzo
6. Vuko Tomasevic
7. Chris Lansdown
8. James Stubbs-Mills
9. David James
10. Joe Bruni
11. Steve Karavatakis
12. Andrew Nicol
13. Mite Talcevski
14. Zoki Adioski
15. Greg Fuchs
16. Anthony Tesoro
17. Chris Cowley
18. Yane Talcevski
19. Andrew Nolan
20. Mark Catelli
21. Andrew Falas
22. Joshua Bulgin

**Team Colours**

Maroon with Blue Shirts
White Shorts
Maroon with Blue Socks

Alternate
White/Maroon/Blue Shirts
White/Maroon/Blue Shorts
White/Maroon/Blue Socks
Coach:Les DeCelis

### UNDER 21'S 5.00pm

**SUTHERLAND**

1. AMIR AJANOVIC
2. SCOTT ALLISON
3. MARC BARIC
4. DAVID CAVACO
5. STEVE KAROVSKI
6. LEIGH MAGRI
7. MARK NOSWORTHY
8. ORIEL PEREZ
9. DEAN SIMPSON
10. ANDREW SMITH
11. TROY SPINK
12. NATHAN TRAJCEVSKI
13. ANDREW VRAHAS

COACH: STEWART PORTER

**LEICHHARDT**

1. JAMES MEYER
2. MOHAMMED MUSLEMANI
3. TOM CORTE
4. DAVID PROVAN
5. JOHN PAUL BOUTROS
6. RICKY WARD
7. ADRIAN DÍONOFRIO
8. ANGUS GOODRICK
9. PAUL LOMBARDO
10. BRETT MURRAY
11. ADRIAN TOTARO
12. AHMED IBRAHIM

COACH: BILLY MCCOLL

### UNDER 18'S 3.00pm

**SUTHERLAND**

1. JONATHAN MCCALLUM
2. JOE ARCIDIACONO
3. NATHAN BARRECA
4. CHRIS CVETKOVSKI
5. GEORGE GALOUZIS
6. TIMOTHY JESUS
7. BEN KASZNIK
8. RAY KELLY
9. JOEL KOTAMANIDIS
10. JAYSON PETROU
11. SAM RAFIQUE
12. JOSE SANCHEZ
13. MATHEW TOOGOOD
14. ANDREW WALES
15. NANA WIAFE

COACH: ALEX BAIRD

**LEICHHARDT**

1. CAMERON MOORE
2. PAUL NICOLAOU
3. LIAM CAMERON
4. MOUSSA CHAHINE
5. DANIEL CUNNINGHAM
6. JOSEPH CIANO
7. ROBBIE CAMPAGNA
8. MICHAEL OÍRILEY
9. ROBERT TRIMBOLI
10. ANTHONY MAZZA
11. FRANCESCO ZARRELLA
12. DAVID HUTCHINSON
13. JOSH DEÍKELLY
14. PETER TALCEVSKI
15. MARIO RACITI
16. RADE UNIPAN
17. JONATHAN FARIAS
30. MARK CARBONE

COACH: JOHN ROMEO

SUTHERLAND SHIRE

# SUTHERLAND SHARKS

*Thanks their sponsors*

# ROUND 1 SUPER LEAGUE

**St George Stadium - Saturday 8 January - Kick Off 7.00pm**

## St George SAINTS

1. LES BIHARI
2. GEORGE MAGLIS
3. SIMON VERRENDER
4. NICK BOLIANITIS
5. MICHAEL KLADIS
6. MARK BRENNAN
7. MAX SEVARES
8. BILL PETROVSKI
9. ANGELO PETRATOS
10. JIM BAKIS
11. ELIAS AUGERINOS
12. MATTHEW GALEA
13. CON SIGRIMIS
14. STEFAN JANIC
15. ACHILLES MARKOPOULOS
16. MANUEL PAPAGEORGIOU
20. STACEY ALGODELLIS

**Team Colours**

White Shirts
White Shorts
White Socks
Coach: John Sentas

## Bonnyrigg W/EAGLES

1. SASHA BOZIC
2. SASHA UTJESENOVIC
3. BEN GREEN
4. BOBBY DRAGAS
5. MILAN CRNOKRAK
6. DAVID REID
7. JAVIER MANCINO
8. DAVID HARDING
9. LEIGH GUNN
10. JOHNNY GHISSO
11. PAUL CANDELORI
12. TAYFUN DEVRIMOL
14. MICHAEL HAWRYSIUK
15. STEWART VAN BENTUM
16. JAMES WARBURTON
17. KONRAD LESKI
18. RAJKO MANDIC
19. AYDIN CETINAY
20. TRINITY ALLEN

**Team Colours**

Red Shirts
Blue Shorts
White Socks
Coach: John Turner

### UNDER 21'S 5.00pm

**ST GEORGE**

1. JAMES ADAMO
2. RYAN TOOMBS
3. ANTHONY CARLINO
4. JOHNNY FOTIADIS
5. BEN PROCTOR
6. DAISUKE NAKAYAMA
7. JAMIE DANASKOS
8. SASHA SIMONOVSKI
9. ANTHONY ADAMO
10. LUKE CAIRNEY
11. ZLATE KUZMANOVSKI
12. DAVID HOFIERKA
14. SHANE MERCER
15. DAVID OÍHAN
16. BRAD CAMPBELL
17. PETER ANDRIOTIS

COACH: TREVOR TROTMAN

**BONNYRIGG**

2. NEHAD MOSHE
3. DARIM ABDURAHMAHOVIC
4. JAVIER GELOS
5. STEVAN ANTONIC
6. LUKE SALKELD
7. JOHN DI FRANCESCO
8. JOVICA NOVAKOVIC
9. ALEX VESELINOVIC
10. MATTHEW PEARMAN
11. FABIAN VEGAS
12. DANIEL MORIN
13. BRIAN SMITH
14. LEON CHARALAMBOUS

COACH: DANNY BLANUSA

### UNDER 18'S 3.00pm

**ST GEORGE**

1. JOSEPH MEOLI
2. MOHSEN DIA
3. ROSS DIBIASI
4. MOHAMMED EL-REDA
5. ONUR GUYSU
6. GLEN HENRY
7. TOMCE JANUSEVSKI
8. MATTHEW JONES
9. DONNY KULEVSKI
10. TAREK MADANI
11. NEIL MELVILLE
12. GEORGE NASTEVSKI
13. NICK NIKOLOVSKI
14. ANDREW SPATA
15. ANTONIO SBAD

**BONNYRIGG**

1. ALI AKBAL
2. MARKO KLEUT
3. MANUEL KALLIANIS
4. MIROSLAV SEKULJICA
5. ANDREW GADDES
6. ARIF HUSEYIN 7. TROY MCCOLL
8. WALTER CHIACCHIO
9. DARREL FERNANDEZ
10. MICHAEL WEST
11. SASHA MILOSAVLJEVIC
12. DANIEL BORG13. DON CARENZA
14. SEAN MCARTHY
15. STEPHEN NELIGAN
16. HENRY SCHAPERS
17. MILAN TAMBURIC
18. UROS VUKELIC
19. CARLOS CUTIERREZ
20. LUIS ASCALANTE

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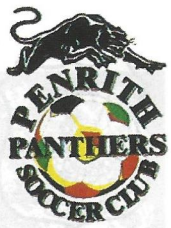
# SUPER LEAGUE ROUND 1

**Andrews Rd Field- Saturday 8 January – Kick Off 7.00pm**

## Penrith PANTHERS




**Team Colours**

Black & Red Shirts
Black & Red Shorts
Black & Red Socks
Coach: Stan Ackerley

1. Luke Martin
3. Steve Sweeney
4. Kaan Davies
5. Ben Wright
6. Martin Driene
7. Bob Casserly
8. Chris Ackerley
9. Danny Hinton
10. Richard Astone
11. Allan Picken
15. Anthony Driene
16. Jason Lewis
18. Jonathon Grima
22. Ivan Necevski

Players Not Assigned Numbers at Time of Printing:
Sandro Borsato, Brett Buckpitt, Simon Casserly, Paul Cleary, Greg Collins, Shane Crampton, John Grant, Garth Tehliwec, Greg Thomas, Alan Worobiej, and Robert Wozniczka.

## Macarthur RAMS

1. Peter Munsie
2. Graeme Goodfellow
3. Ben Willard
4. Gary Attard
5. Martin Bourke
6. Matthew OíShea
7. Ian McDonald
8. Paul Bentvelzear
9. Eric Williams
10. Adrian Macerola
11. Daniel Cummings
12. Gary Newall
13. Colin McAusland
14. Richard Lloyd
16. Tony Judge
18. Wes Horne
19. Dale Clayton

**Team Colours**

Maroon & White Shirts
Maroon Shorts
Maroon Socks
Coach: Brian Dene

### UNDER 21'S — 1.00pm

**PENRITH**
1 LUKE MARTIN
11. ALLAN PICKEN
22. IVAN NECEVSKI

PLAYERS NOT ASSIGNED NUMBERS AT TIME OF PRINTING:
STEVE ANDREWS, KARIM BALLOOT, GREG COLLINS, LEIGH CROSS, STEVE DIMOVSKI, JON HAWKINS, DANIEL LOWNDS, GLENN MACPHERSON, PAUL PETROVSKI, ADAM PIPER, MICK RENNY, NICK RYAN, JASON SCIBERRAS, GARTH TEHLIWECMARK TOLAND, ALANWOROBIEJ, AND ROBERT WOZNICZKA.

**MACARTHUR**
1. CHAD TAYLOR
2. CHRIS HENRICKSON
3. GREG MCDERMOTT
4. BRAD WITHER
5. BRAD ELLIS
6. LIAM ACKLAND
7. KRIS DUFFICY
8. RYAN KEARNS
9. RYAN JONES
10. NATHAN LITTLE
11. KAAN UYSEN
20. ADAM MACNAUGHTON

COACH: SCOTT HOUGHTON

### UNDER 18'S — 11.00am

**PENRITH**
2 GUS ORCAJO
3. MARK MIJAS
4. DANIEL WELLS
5. PEARCE MCGUINESS
6. LUKE BOYD
7. SIMON EMMANUEL
8. DARRIN ROBERTSON
9. MATTHEW SUMEGHY
10. JOHNNY CHAVEZ
11. ULAS AVSAR
12. ASHLEY DEÍABEL
13. ADAM KOZLOWSKI
14. WASSIM BALLOOT
15. ERCAN TOPAL
16. GEOFF MENDHAM
17. DENIS ILIC
23. OWEN RODGERS
24. JIMMY PANOPOULOS
COACH: JOSE DJALO

**MACARTHUR**
1. DAVID SILLINCE
2. ADEL EL JAMEL
3. WADE SCHERINI
4. BRETT GILLELAND
5. BRENDAN KEARNS
6. EMANUEL MELIENDREZ
7. MARCELO GUERRERO
8. PAUL RANKIN
9. JULIAN LOPEZ
10. LEIGH MURTZ
11. VASILIUS PANOUTSOPOULOS
12. ANTHONY CASTLE
13. NATHAN WEATE
14. RHYS GILLELAND
17. SHANE RISBY
20. BEN DUGGAN

COACH: STEVE MARSH

**The Penrith Panthers**
**would like to thank their sponsors**

# ROUND 1 SUPER LEAGUE

**Cromer Park - Saturday 8 January - Kick Off 7.00pm**

## Manly Warringah Dolphins

1. DEAN MCCREATH
2. ANDRE GLUCINA
3. SEAN ROBERTSON
4. KELVIN FOSTER
5. MARTIN RANDALDI
6. THOMAZ MIKULSKI
7. DAVID KUHN
8. KIETH LONG
9. SCOTT MCQUIRE
10. MARK BELDHAM
12. MARTEN JAGERS
13. ROBERT SMITHIES
14. CHRISTIAN WHEELER
15. STEVE KICKMAN
16. MATT GODWIN
17. TIMOTHY WILSON

## Canterbury M/Ville BERRIES

1.. FRANK MIKULETIC
2.. MICHAEL RAEBURN
3.. ADRIAN MOLACHINO
4.. SIMON FEDELE
5.. MATTHEW PERCY
6.. ZORAN ILIC
7.. JOSE MENDES
8.. SCOTT WELLS
9.. STEVE CHRISTOFORIDIS
10.. JIM NIKAS
11.. ANGELO MARKOPOULOS
12.. TERRY SIDIRATOS
13.. AHELEAS KOTSOPOULOS
14.. JOE FERRARO
15.. RUDI NASSER
16.. ADRIAN VIZZARI
17.. ROBERT JERKOVIC
18.. VINCE CONDOLUCI
19.. PATRICK GALLOWAY
20.. JOSE BELLO AMIGO
21.. DANNY GIORGOKOPOULOS
22.. MICHAEL TSIGOLIS 23.. TERRY PALAPANIS

**Team Colours**

Blue Shirts
Blue Shorts
Blue Socks
Coach: John Xipolitas

### UNDER 21'S 5.00pm

**DOLPHINS**

1. PETER DOUGHENEY
2. BARRY-JON VAN WYK
3. ANTHONY SURACE
4. ADAM WILD
5. PAUL NERO
6. TIGRAN HAROUTIOUNIAN
7. CHRIS STUBBS-MILLS
8. GAVIN YATES
9. PAUL HAYDEN
10. JUSTIN JONES
11. ANTHONY MARTIN
12. VINCE BAGNATO
13. OLIVER GOMM
14. ANDREW KING
15 ALEXANDER SCRIVEN
16. ANTHONY TALLARIDA
17. STEPHEN VISKI
21. ADAM FROST
22. ROBVERT WATSON

**CANTERBURY**

1.. PETER SPOTHIS
2.. PETER TSIGOLIS
3.. DARIO TORRISI
4.. MIGUEL VIEIRA
5.. JOHN THEODOROPOULOS
6.. ANTHONY FALAS
7.. PATRICK GALLOWAY
8.. JOEL DONNELLY
9.. CON STAVERIS
10.. GONCALO GUEDES
11.. JOHN TESTONE
12.. ANDREAS SOUFERLIS

COACH: ARTHUR KAZAS

### UNDER 18'S 3.00pm

**DOLPHINS**

1. MICHAEL STEELL
2. MARK SZEWCZYK
3. JOHN DRIVAS
4. CRAIG GOSLING
5. SHAHAB KARGARIAN
6. BOGDSAV DURDEVIC
7. JAMES SHARKEY
8. BEN POGUE
9. WILSON TERUZZI
10 GARTH MORING
11 DANIAL NERO
12. IVAN TOMAS
13. KIAVASH SEIAR
14. ASHLEY SHORT
15. STIVEN KOSTANIC
16. CHRISTOPHER WATSON
17. LEE EVERSON
18. ABRAHAM AROYEN
19. MILOS MALATINEC

**CANTERBURY**

1.. TRISTIAN TULLOCK
2.. PAUL REPETI
3.. DENNIS DUNDOVIC
4.. SCOTT THOMPSON
5.. DANIEL VELJANOVSKI
6.. ANTONY MERSIADES
7.. JONATHAN VAVASIS
8.. MATT CULLA 9.. DAVID GIRALDO
10.. ZADEN JOSE-SANDAISSI
11.. MARKO GALANTE
12.. EMIL FADEL13.. CHRIS KLAFAS
14.. AIDEN MCBARROR
15.. ARTHUR KAVGAS
16.. CHRIS CARMONA
17.. NICK KUZMANOSKI
18.. STUART VELLA
19.. PHILLIP ZABAKS
COACH: IAN RAEBURN


**Canterbury Berries**

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# SUPER LEAGUE ROUND 1

**Jensen Park - Sunday 9 January - Kick Off 7.00pm**

## BANKSTOWN CITY LIONS

1. Zlatko Josevski
2. Kire Grozdanovski
3. Mark Abi-Arrage
4. Tony Josevski
5. Richard Luksic
6. Kire Josevski
7. George Issa
8. Robert Issa
9. Mendo Lozevski
10. Nabil Codmani
11. Goce Trposki
12. Zia Younan
13. Stojance Trpcevski
14. Anthony Kanaan
15. George Haniotis
16. Michael Lemezina
17. Damien Zane

**Team Colours**

Red & Black Shirts
Black Shorts
Red Socks
Coach: Lubo Jancev

## Parramatta EAGLES

1. Jason Holmes
2. Scott Xuereb
3. Geoff Dwyer
4. Mark Reveley
5. Malcolm Meilak
6. Tom Bazdaric
7. Anthony Panzarino
8. Alex Trpkoski
9. Adam Anderson
10. Anthony Mittiga
11. Nikolce Joseski
12. George Wakim
13. Glen Meilak
14. Stephen Chips
15. Ben Delicata
20. Michael Xuereb

**Team Colours**

White Shirts
White Shorts
White Socks
Coach: Roberto Viera

### UNDER 21'S 5.00pm

**BANKSTOWN**

1. CEM AKILI
2. PANDE NIKOLOVSKI
3. JOHNY KIPOVIZOV
4. MARK LANCASTER
5. PAUL PARAS
6. ALEX ARDONE
7. DAVID PINTOS
8. NICK MASTLINKOSKI
9. RODNEY LOCK
10. LARRY TRAJKOVSKI
11. NINOS BESSEH
12. ANDREW STROGYLOS
13. JOHNNY PARCIO
14. SEFER MILDIZ
15. BEKIM AHMEDI
20. ADAM KURTS

COACH: ALEN STAJCIC

**PARRAMATTA**

1. DANIEL FARIAS
2. ADRIAN MEILAK
3. DANIEL BORG
4. DANIEL CELESTINO
5. BEN SHORT
6. BRADLEY MOORE
7. ALEX MUSCAT
8. DAVID MANSUETO
9. BOBBY MARANGON
10. DANIEL MITTIGA
11. DAMIAN HARDIMAN
12. DANIEL DI LORETO
13. EDUARDO CASTRO
14. DAVID OZACARDI
15. JEFFREY FONSECA
20. MICHAEL XUEREB

COACH: TAM FINLAYSON

### UNDER 18'S 3.00pm

**BANKSTOWN**

1. A. MARCELINO
2. Z. CVETKOVSKI
3. B. SOTIROPOULOS
4. P. KUZMANOSKI
5. M. GORGIOSKI
6. J. KASSEM
7. B. SHRIMPTON
8. C. NESTOROVSKI
9. T. MARKOVSKI
10. C. FALLICO
11. M. POLLARD
12. S. STEVANOVSKI
13. A. CICEK
14. S. ROLEVSKI
15. E. OCHOA
20. J. ANGELKOVSKI

COACH: WALTER ALVAREZ

**PARRAMATTA**

1. PAUL BAYLEY
2. SIMON VALE
3. GARY VAN DIGGELE
4. BENJAMIN MAILER
5. GREGG JACKSON
6. ADAM MANSUETO
7. TROY STONE 8. SAMUEL NOTT
9. ALIOUNE NDIAYE
10. MICHAEL DEBONO
11. ANTUN BRCIC
12. DANIEL TOSOLINI
13. NIKOLA NACOVSKI
14. MATTHEW OSMAN
15. SIMON ZAHRA 16. TUMAY BEHA
17. NATHAN SPINKS
20. STEPHEN SALIBA

COACH: SASHA BOSKOVSKI

BANKSTOWN CITY LIONS

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# ROUND 1 SUPER LEAGUE

**David Phillips Field - Sunday 9 January - Kick Off 7.00pm**

## Eastern Suburbs WANDERERS

1 - LES BIHARI
2 - GARY SPIVAK
3 - MATTHEW DIHM
4 - VADIM MIKOUTSKI
5 - STEVE HICKMAN
6 - MICK DANIELS
7 - CRAIG SHARPLEY
8 - MIKE SMITH
9 - SCOTT MUTTON
10 - STEVE McCOMBE
11 - RUDI JERKOVIC
12 - PETER PULLICINO
13 - DAVE SEGRETO
14 - KEVIN WATSON
15 - PHIL MOSS
16 - YAVOS EKINCI
20 - ADAM MARK
21 - PETER SERMANNI
22 - JASON BENNETT

**Team Colours**

Red Shirts
Royal Blue Shorts
White Socks
Coach: Joe Watson

## Blacktown City DEMONS

1 - FERNANDO GRECO
2 - STEVE CUTLER
3 - DAMIEN FOXE
4 - DAMON LANGAN
5 - SCOTT ASHTON
6 - DAMIEN SMITH
7 - JON ANGELUCCI
8 - STEVE BERRY
9 - STUART CLEARY
10 - SARKIS BOUDAHER
11 - PAT BRADLEY
12 - PAUL YATES
13 - BEN BLAKE
14 - DAMIEN BROWN
15 - GARY VAN EGMOND
16 - AARON HOLST
17 - HUSEIYN BAYHAN
20 - SIMON PRIOR

**Team Colours**

Red & White Shirts
White Shorts
Red Socks
Coach: Alex Robertson

### UNDER 21'S 5.00pm

**EASTERN SUBURBS**
1 ADAM MARK
2 DARKO ZORIC
3 NICK MANDIC
4 DAVID KUHN
5 CLINT MAYBERRY
6 SEBASTIAN MATTHEWS
7 NAOKI IMAYA
8 DAVID OZACARDI
9 SHANE SWORDS
10 DAVID SEVARES
11 PAT DARVILL
12 ALAIN PAVELIC
14 MANNY MITAKIDIS
15 HULISI ORHAN
17 DAVID PAVELIC

**BLACKTOWN**
1 SIMON PRIOR
2 JON PRZYDAC
3 JACK SOBCZYK
4 TONY FARIA
5 IAN KEBBLEWHITE
6 ALAN GORDON
7 MARK DELLASANDRO
8 ROBERT PORTELLI
9 ADAM SCARPIN
10 MARK LEONE
12 SIMON HUTCHINS
20 LIAM DALY

### UNDER 18'S 3.00pm

**EASTERN SUBURBS**
1 DANNY GEORGAKOPOULOS
2 TIM FALZON
3 BRENDIN LO
4 SASHA SEKULCESKI
5 DANNY MAKRYPODIS
6 ANTHONY MAXWELL
7 GEORGE KOUTROULIS
8 BILL KUZMANOVSKI
9 BRIAN MILENCOVIC
10 TERRY ATSAS
11 SOTIRI ALEXOPOULOS
12 ORHAN DINCER
14 JOHN VELTHUYS
16 BEN PROCTOR
17 DANIEL DI-LORETO
18 LOUIE PSAROLOGOS
19 IAN FRENKEL
20 MICHAEL SKUFRIS

**BLACKTOWN**
1 LUCAS FLETCHER
2 ADJEI AKWASI
3 PETER ANTAR
4 ISMAEL ARRARTE
5 RODNEY CANNON
6 ERROL DULLAK
7 JASON FAZZOLARI
8 CHRIS FLEMING
9 ALVARO FARIAS
10 DAMIEN FRANCESCUCCI
11 JASON HAMILTON
12 KERIAN HOLDSWORTH
13 JOSHUA JACKETT
14 NELSON MCLAUGHLIN
15 DAVID PROVAN
16 NAVID VARESS


**Eastern Suburbs**

*would like to thank the following major sponsors*

MIRANDA WINES M EST. 1939

...from page 9

signed a player, coach Tony Pezzano determined to make sure of his most dedicated trialists, before making anything final. The loss of Alan Hunter with two very serious breaks in a leg, sustained in a trial against Parramatta, was a devastating blow to both player and club.

Super Soccer prediction: Aiming high, but will do well to keep out of the bottom four.

## PARRAMATTA EAGLES

Parramatta Eagles are always strong. Ever-smiling Roberto Viera may continue to look brightly on his team's prospects with the inclusion of big defender Tom Bazdaric and utility Scott Xuereb, while Nikolce Joseski is another to feature in the off season signings alongside Alex Trpovski. The Eagles look set to fly high once more this season.

Super Soccer prediction: Bound to be in the top half dozen; if they can reach the very top it will be a surprise.

## PENRITH PANTHERS

Penrith Panthers may be a different story as they already have the nucleus of a good side. A few additions like the Driene brothers and Stuart Neilson will make Stan Ackerley feel reasonably confident about being competitive, but beyond that it would be asking a lot for them to challenge for honours.

Super Soccer prediction: hard to see them moving far off the bottom in their first season.

## ST GEORGE

The Saints are in buoyant mood with the signing of some top notch players by John Sentas. Les Bihari is the new keeper, following the departure of trinity Allen, while Stacy Alogdelis will offer solid back up. Bill Petrovski is the most interesting signing, the former Rockdale man still only 19 and on the verge of great things.

Super Soccer prediction: They may be a good unit by the end of the season, but could take time to find form. Expect them to be a mid-table outfit in their first year back.

## SUTHERLAND SHARKS

Sutherland have in their favour a settled, committed side, with Craig Hobbs looking much sharper already this season. New recruit Wayne Gibson from Bankstown has been shaping up really well in trial matches and should prove a big asset in midfield, while Kris Karanasos should mature still further with another season under his belt.

Super Soccer prediction: Another battling season for the Sharks, but not beyond them to challenge for honours.

You can match your tipping skills against our Super Soccer experts.

Just send in your predictions for the top three places in Super League 2000 at the end of the home-and-away season, and you could win an autographed Socceroo shirt. Entry forms must be in by 4 February 2000.

Send to:

Super Soccer - Super League 2000 competition
PO Box 6024
Blacktown BC NSW 2148

Just write your top three teams on the back of an envelope with your name, address, e-mail and telephone number.

The winner will be announced in Super Soccer in August.

# SUPER LEAGUE CLUB DIRECTORY

You've been looking forward to the big game all week. You get up bright and early on match-day, don your club colours, and make your way to the away venue in plenty of time. But when you arrive to watch your beloved team play you find out that you've missed the all-important kick-off because you couldn't find where the stadium was!

## Never fear!

Super Soccer presents an up-to-date Super League and National Soccer League Club Direction Guide so that whether you travel by bus, train, or automobile you'll catch every minute of the action!

## BANKSTOWN CITY LIONS

Home Ground:
Jensen Park, Clapham Road, Sefton

Publicity Officer:
Valentina Ristanceva

Contact Numbers:
9795 0000 • 0418 264 710

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 231, J1

By Car:
Via Park Road, Auburn and right off Carlingford Road into Clapham Road, after roundabout at Regents Park Station.

Parking:
Limited parking at the ground and latecomers may park on the streets surrounding the stadium.

By Train:
By train to Regents Park (Liverpool or Bankstown lines) and alight on western side, turn right off Carlingford Road into Clapham Road; stadium is on the right.

OR, by train to Sefton (Liverpool via Regents Park line) alight on northern side, walk down Helen Street turning right into Clapham Road, stadium is 400 metres on the left.

By Bus:
Crossley Bus 908 from Bankstown and Guildford. For further information telephone Crossley Bus Lines on 9774 4966.

## BLACKTOWN CITY DEMONS

Home Ground:
Gabbie Stadium,
Quinn Avenue, Seven Hills

Publicity Officer:
Don O'Regan

Contact Numbers:
9624 7104 • 0418 260 114
Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 169, J14

By Car:
Off Seven Hills Road, multiple options to get there by motorway or main arteries off Cumberland Highway.

Parking:
In the club car park or on adjoining streets.

By Train:
By train to Seven Hills, then exit on northern side and walk along Seven Hills Road, turning left into Lucas Road and right into Quinn Avenue.

By Bus:
Westbus 705 from Parramatta, 709 from Toongabbie and 718 from Blacktown. For further information telephone Westbus on 9890 0000.

## BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES

Home Ground:
Serbian Centre,
Elizabeth Drive, Bonnyrigg

Publicity Officer:
Jack Cirjanic

Contact Number:
9823 7714

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 247, Q4

By Car:
Along Cumberland Highway to large Smithfield roundabout, then along Smithfield Road to the end, then right

at Elizabeth Drive, left at Aplin Road, right at Simpson Road.

Parking:
Club has room for around 800 cars inside its own car park.
By Train:
By train to Cabramatta and then by Westbus (Ph: 9890 0000), 832 to Simpson Road, stops outside ground, once hourly.
OR, by train to Liverpool, then by Oliveri's bus 845 to Bonnyrigg. For further information telephone Oliveri's Metro-Link Bus Lines on 9607 8888.

## CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE

Home Ground:
Henson Park, Sydenham Road/Centennial Street, Marrickville

Publicity Officer:
Laki Konistis

Contact Number:
0411 191 815

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 17, B3

By Car:
From the city along New Canterbury Road, turn left into Livingstone Road and then left into Sydenham Road; ground is on left a short way along. Turn left at Centennial Street to find entrance and car park at end of short street.

Parking:
Inside the ground and on adjoining streets.

By Train:
By train to Sydenham and then short walk.

OR, by train to Marrickville or Petersham and walk longer distance towards Sydenham Road.

By Bus:
426 from Circular Quay, city and environs. Check with Transport Infoline on 131 500 for exact details and timetable information.

Ground is located 5 minutes west along Sydenham Rd from Victoria Road intersection.

## CENTRAL COAST

Home Ground:
Pluim Park, Tuggerah Street, Lisarow

Publicity Officer:
Ray Sandell

Contact Numbers:
4332 3042 • 0419 462 920

By Car:
Take Newcastle Freeway to turn off at Ourimbah Road heading east to Lisarow, first passing Ourimbah station, left over bridge and left into Tuggerah Street.

Parking:
Adequate parking inside the ground.

By Train:
By train to Lisarow, exit on northern side and then turn left back along highway to turn off at Tuggerah Street on the right.

## EASTERN SUBURBS

Regular Home Ground:
Wentworth Park, Glebe

Publicity Officer:
Peter Chiarello

Contact Number:
0413 422 201

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 10, L8

By Car:
Along Bay Street or Wattle Street after turning left off Broadway, (arriving from the west).

Parking:
On adjoining streets.

By Train:
Regular light rail service from Central Station, which terminates at the ground. For further information telephone Sydney Light Rail on 9660 5288.

By Bus:
Take 422 from corner of Pitt and Barlow in the city and alight at corner of Broadway and Wattle. Check with Transport Infoline on 131 500 for exact details and timetable information.
Home Ground for Night Games:
David Phillips Sports Field, Banks Avenue, Daceyville

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 276, K5

By Car:
Via Anzac Parade to Kingsford junction and into Banks Avenue, via Bunnerong Road.

Ground is just along from Bonnie Doon golf course and opposite Rowland Park.

Parking:
On adjoining streets.

By Train:
By train to Central and then bus from Elizabeth Street or Eddy Avenue.

By Bus:
Any Anzac Parade bus bound for Pagewood, Botany, Matraville, Malabar, La Perouse etc or Daceyville service from the city including Central Station and Circular Quay.

## FAIRFIELD BULLS

Home Ground:
Nineveh Club Soccer Field, 673 Smithfield Road, Edensor Park

Publicity Officer:
Sargon Makko

Contact Number:
9639 8448

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 248, F1 (Smithfield Road and Edensor Road intersection)

By Car:
Along Cumberland Highway to large Smithfield roundabout, then take Smithfield Road fork and then turn into Nineveh club, on left, after the set of traffic lights at Edensor Road intersection some five kilometres further on.

Parking:
Limited parking in the Nineveh Club car park.

By Train:
By train to Cabramatta or Fairfield and buses from either station.

By Bus:
Westbus 831 from Cabramatta or 827 from Fairfield. For further information telephone Westbus on 9890 0000.

## LEICHHARDT TIGERS

Home Ground:
Lambert Park, Marion Street, Leichhardt

Publicity Officer:
Angelo Riccio

Contact Numbers:
9798 5925 • 0419 407 400

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 254, L1

By Car:
(From the west) Turn left off Parramatta Road along Tebbut Street to set of traffic lights at Marion Street; ground is prominent on the left corner of the intersection.

Parking:
On the streets surrounding the stadium.

By Train:
By train to Lewisham and walk up Tebbut Street.

By Bus:
Take Drummoyne-bound buses, 437 from Circular Quay or 438 from Central. Check with Transport Infoline on 131 500 for exact details and timetable information.

## MACARTHUR RAMS

Home Ground:
Lynwood Park, Rangers Road, St Helens Park

Publicity Officer:
Peter Nielson

Contact Number:
0418 249 884

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 366, P3

By Car:
Off freeway to Appin Road, south, left at Woodland Road, right at Karrabul Road, left at Rangers Road and into ground at the end of Rangers Road.

Parking:
Adequate parking in club's own car park.

By Train & Bus:
By train to Campbelltown then take Busways 884 (St Helens Park bus) or 886 via Appin Road junction and Woodland Road, to the last stop in Karabul Road, then walk 400 metres to the ground. For further information telephone Busways on 4625 8922.

## MANLY-WARRINGAH DOLPHINS

Home Ground:
Cromer Park, South Creek Road, Dee Why

Publicity Officer:
Ali Wells

Contact Numbers:
9939 2895 • 9939 7907 • 0412 718 012

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 158, A16.

By Car:
Heading north off Harbour Bridge or Tunnel take Manly exit. Travel along Military Road until Spit Junction, turn left into Spit Road and go over Spit Bridge. Go down Burnt Bridge Creek Deviation onto Condamine Street, then into Pittwater Road. Then, keeping Warringah Mall on your left, pass Warringah Road intersection, head north past Dee Why Park on left and then turn left into South Creek Road, (opposite Lagoon) then right at second roundabout and left around the next corner, where ground is on the left, clearly visible opposite Roche complex.

Alternatively, heading east via Ryde, take Mona Vale Road. Turn right into Forest Way after passing St Ives Showground and travel to the end of this Road, left into Warringah Road to intersection of Pittwater Road, where a left turn takes you past Dee Why Park as above.

Parking:
Adequate parking in the club's own car park.

By Bus:
By bus from Manly Wharf (155,157), North Sydney or Wynyard in the city (160, and 179-190 inclusive). All Palm Beach, Narrabeen, Collaroy and Mona Vale buses, which travel along Pittwater Road, are suitable. Check with Transport Infoline on 131 500 for exact details and timetable information.

## PARRAMATTA EAGLES

Home Ground:
Melita Stadium, Everley Road, Chester Hill

Publicity Officer:
Doris Drewery or Sam Vella

Contact Numbers:
Doris 9604 6836, Sam 9645 4413 or 9743 7130

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 231, G11

By Car:
Travelling along Woodville Road from the north, left at Rawson Road, right at Ferndell St and left into Everley Road to the stadium at the end of the road. The car park is also situated there.

Parking:
Adequate parking in club's own car park behind the ground between it and Everley Park.

By Train:
By train to Granville, then Baxters bus 910 or train to Chester Hill and then walk east along Waldron Rd, left at Hector St to Boundary Road, cross into Merle St, and stadium is at the far end.

By Bus:
Baxter's 910 from Parramatta and alight at Chester Hill Station. For further information phone Baxter's Bus Lines on 9631 8500.

## PENRITH PANTHERS

Home Ground:
Andrews Road Field, Andrews Road, Penrith

Publicity Officer:
Fran Tyrrell

Contact Number:
0407 356 625

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 163, N1

By Car:
Heading west along Great Western Highway turn right at Parker Road, proceed along Richmond Road and take left at Andrews Road,

Parking:
Adequate parking in club's own car park.

By Train:
By train to Penrith and walk north up Castlereagh Road and right into Andrews Road.

## ST GEORGE

Home Ground:
St George Stadium, Barton Park, 88 Bestic Street, Rockdale

Publicity Officer:
Paul Andriotis

Contact Number:
0415 272 261

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 274, Q12

By Car:
Travelling south, take Southern Cross Drive towards Brighton, turn right at Bestic Street and right at stadium car park just beyond Fisherman's Club.

Alternatively, take Rockdale bypass left off Princes Highway at Arncliffe, turning left into Bestic Street about 2 kilometres along, then left into stadium car park, immediately before Fisherman's Club.

Parking:
Ample parking inside the club's own car park.

By Train:
By train to Banksia, alight on eastern (Princes Highway) side of station then cross to far side, turn right towards Bestic Street, turn left there and continue for 2 kilometres to stadium which is on the left. If alighting at Rockdale Station, head north on Princes Highway and take right at Bestic Street.

By Bus:
Bus 475, 479 from city. Check with Transport Infoline on 131 500 for exact details and timetable information.

## SUTHERLAND SHARKS

Home Ground:
Seymour Shaw Soccer Stadium, The Boulevarde, Miranda

Publicity Officer:
Peter Smith

Contact Number:
9529 8695

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 333, L2

By Car:
Head towards the roundabout at The Boulevarde that links both Taren Point Road and Port Hacking Road with Princes Highway. The ground is halfway between the last two of these major roads and is on The Boulevarde.

Parking:
On adjoining streets, early comers along The Boulevarde, plus some small car parks at the back of Seymour Shaw itself and on Wandella Road North.

By Train:
By Train to Miranda, turn right out of the station and then head north along Kiora Road and then continue on into The Boulevarde, turning left at the large roundabout; ground is 100 metres along on your left.

**NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE CLUB DIRECTORY (NSW only):**

## MARCONI STALLIONS

Home Ground:
Marconi Stadium, Marconi Plaza, Bossley Park

Contact Details:
Telephone: 9823 2222, Fax: 9823 5918, E-mail: Football@marconifc.com, Website: www.marconifc.com

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 228, C9

By Car:
Take Cumberland Highway to Smithfield and then The Horsley Drive as far as Mimosa Road, turning left there and right at the roundabout into Restwell Road where the stadium is on the left.

OR, take Smithfield Road from the roundabout at Smithfield and turn right at Mimosa Road and left into Salter Road.

Parking:
Ample parking at the ground in the Marconi Club car park. There are at least 2,500 spaces plus members section below.

By Train: (Campbelltown-bound service from the city and environs) To Fairfield, thence bus or taxi.
Alight on north-western side of station for taxi rank and bus interchange.

By Bus:
From Fairfield Station-Westbus 826 or 827 bound for Prairie Vale Road, Bossley Park or Greenfield Park via The Horsley Drive or Polding Street. For further information telephone Westbus on 9890 0000

## NEWCASTLE BREAKERS

Home Ground:
Breakers Stadium, 104 Sandgate Road, Birmingham Gardens

Contact Details:
Telephone: 4951 2722, Fax: 4950 1712, E-mail: admin@breakers.com.au, Website: www.breakers.com.au

By Car:
From Sydney - Take F3 Freeway from Sydney or Central Coast and exit at the Wallsend turnoff. Proceed to the end of this road; at Wallsend, turn left at roundabout, then right at next roundabout, go through next roundabout outside Wallsend Plaza and past shopping centre along Cowper St. / Stapleton St., after 1km or so turn left at T intersection into Douglas St, right into Sandgate Road.

From Newcastle - Newcastle Road, then right into Douglas St. after Jesmond.

From New England Highway - Turn at Sandgate Road, near cemetery.

Parking:
In the Austral Sports Club car park, (400+ spaces available), or on adjoining streets.

By Train:
Main Northern line - to Broadmeadow and 233 bus to Stockland Mall, Jesmond (1km walk to west) or Birmingham Gardens.

From Cardiff Station telephone Sugar Valley Coachlines on 4958 2057.

Hunter line - To Sandgate station, via Broadmeadow, and the ground is 15 minutes walk from there. Telephone Sandgate Station for travel information on 4962 9696.

By Bus:
As above and alight at England Street, Birmingham Gardens. For further information telephone Newcastle Buses on 4961 8933.

## NORTHERN SPIRIT

Home Ground:
North Sydney Oval, Miller Street St, North Sydney

Contact Details:
Telephone: 9460 2187, Fax: 9460 2183, E-mail: contact@northernspirit.com.au, Website: www.northernspirit.com.au

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page A, L3

By Car:
Over Harbour Bridge or under Harbour Tunnel from the south and east and then take Crows Nest Falcon Street or Ernest Street exits to find parking near the ground.

From the north proceed down Pacific Highway and turn left at Crows Nest along Falcon Street to find parking near the ground.

From the west, over the Gladesville Bridge to Lane Cove and then down Pacific Highway as above.

Parking:
Local schools provide parking in their grounds for a $5 fee and many side streets can be deployed after 6.30 p.m. on both sides of the expressway and Miller Street. There is also official parking in Ridge Street.

By Train: By train to North Sydney and thence walk up Miller Street or take shuttle bus or one of many buses headed for Cammeray and Northbridge etc. from outside the station.

By Bus:
Travel by bus from the many adjoining north shore suburbs that pass the ground, including buses from North Sydney station.

## PARRAMATTA POWER

Home Ground:
Parramatta Stadium, O'Connell Street, Parramatta

Contact Details:
Telephone: 9630 9777, Fax: 9630 9555, E-mail: angelat@parrapower.com.au, Website: www.parrapower.com.au

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 24, E3

By Car:
From the city along Parramatta Road or via the M4 from Strathfield, exit at Granville and thence via Parramatta Road and Church Street.

Parking:
Members may park inside the Parramatta Leagues Club car park.

Non-members can park in and around the many streets surrounding the ground, at nearby schools for a small fee, or at the adjacent Parramatta Swimming Centre.

By Train:
By train to Parramatta and then take a free shuttle bus which leaves at regular intervals up to kick-off time, starting from 5.30 p.m. (or 2 hours prior to kick-off).

By Bus: From surrounding suburbs, such as the Hills District, to Parramatta Station and then as above.

On Foot:
The ground is located 15 minutes walk from Parramatta Station on the northern side of the Parramatta River.

Spectators on foot may turn right out of Station Street into Church Street and go as far as Victoria Road and then turn left before walking towards the stadium which is on the opposite side of O'Connell Street which forms the
T-junction at the end.

By River Cat (Ferry) from Circular Quay and walk the remaining kilometre west from the wharf, via George Street and then right into O'Connell Street where stadium is on the left.

Allow the tall floodlight towers in the distance to guide you.

## SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Home Ground:
Belmore Sports Ground, Leylands Parade, Belmore

Contact Details:
Telephone: 9558 5355, Fax: 9558 8647, Website: www.sydneyolympic.com.au

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 253, G16

By Car:
Take King Georges Road to Belfield and then turn left at Burwood Road travelling as far as Belmore Shopping Centre. Take a left either before or after the shops and find parking in the area close to the ground, including the club car park.

Parking:
Park in any adjoining streets. The official car park holds 2,000.

By Train:
By train to Belmore (Bankstown line) from the
city or Strathfield.

By Bus:
Catch 415 to Belmore Station. Check with Transport Infoline on 131 500 for exact details and timetable information.

## SYDNEY UNITED PUMAS

Home Ground:
Sydney United Sports Centre, Edensor Road, Edensor Park

Contact Details:
Telephone: 9823 6418, Fax: 9610 7925, E-mail: ante@rivernet.com.au, Website: www.sydneyunited.com.au

Sydney UBD 2000 Reference:
Page 227, Q15 (Please note that Sydney United Sports Centre is referred to as King Tomislav Park in Sydney UBD 2000)

By Car:
Via Cumberland Highway from the north and east turning at either The Horsley Drive at Smithfield or Smithfield Road at major roundabout in Smithfield. Thence turn into Edensor Road from either end and find ground near the Smithfield Road end.

Parking:
In club's own car park, which provides limited spaces and on adjoining streets.

By Train:
(Campbelltown-bound service from the city and environs) To Fairfield, thence bus or taxi. Alight on north-western side of station for taxi rank and bus interchange.

By Bus:
Westbus 826 or 827 to Cabramatta or Greenfield Park, or Edensor Park or Bossley Park via Polding Street or Horsley Drive. For further information telephone Westbus on 9890 0000.

## WOLLONGONG WOLVES

Home Ground:
Brandon Park, Squires Way, Fairy Meadow

Contact Details:
Telephone: 4226 3988, Fax: 4229 3282, E-mail: wolves@1earth.net, Website: www.illawarra.net.au/Wolves

By Car:
From Sydney city and north—Take Princes Highway/Southern Freeway, becomes Mt Ousley Road. Hold left on Mt Ousley Road (which is really an exit) down toward Princes Highway. Turn left at roundabout, right at Elliots Road, right at Squires Way. Brandon Park is on the right.

From Sydney's western suburbs - down the M5, left at Picton Road, down Mt Ousley Road and then same as above.

Parking:
Room for 1,500 cars in the official car park.

By Train:
By train to Fairy Meadow Station (4.23 p.m. from Central pulls in at 5.47 p.m.; but to get back the only options are 8.18 p.m. and 10.14 p.m.; telephone Fairy Meadow Station on 4223 5582 for further information). A short walk down Montague Street follows.

By Bus:
From Wollongong city to Fairy Meadow Station or North Wollongong.

For Exact Route & Timetable Information:

Public Transport Infoline Service:
www.131500.com.au or telephone 131 500

Sydney Bus & Ferry Guide:
www.sydneybuses.nsw.gov.au/maps/Mapguide.htm

Train information:
www.cityrail.nsw.gov.au &
www.staterail.nsw.gov.au

For further information on Super League and National League Matches head toward the new-look website of the New South Wales Soccer Federation at www.soccernsw.com.au

1999 Champions, Blacktown City, at the Grand Final in August

***Andrew Howe looks at the NSL action in round 14 (2 January) and previews round 15.***

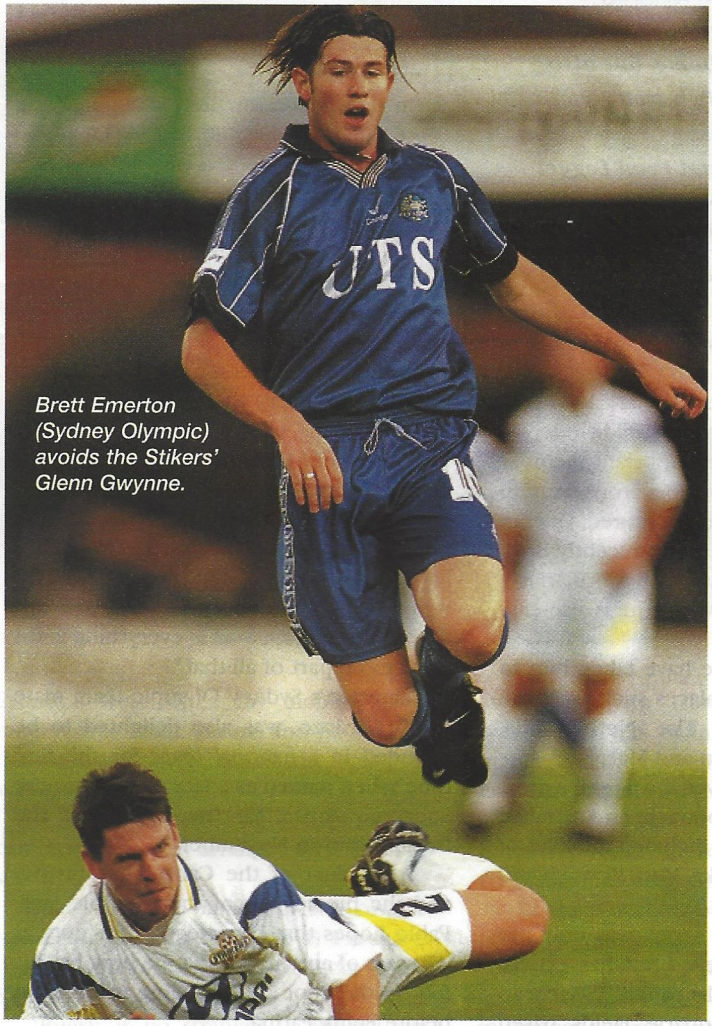
# NSL

The Newcastle Breakers remain in sixth position after they defeated Sydney United at home 1-0, while Wollongong and Parramatta played out a 4-3 thriller, with the Wolves victorious at home. In Sydney, the Strikers returned to form with a 2-0 win over the Spirit. In Morwell there was a 1-1 draw between Gippsland and the Adelaide Force. The remaining Sunday game saw home team Marconi defeat the Knights 3-0. Olympic-Perth and Kingz-Canberra were both played Monday, while the South Melbourne-Carlton game has been postponed until March 1 due to Souths' World Club Championship commitments.

This coming Friday the Adelaide Force take on the Canberra Cosmos in Adelaide. Although the Cosmos won the previous encounter 3-0, that was only their first win in ten attempts. The Force's Carl Veart - in his new role of stopper - will be aiming to help continue Canberra's poor scoring record at Hindmarsh Stadium, where they have scored just one goal against the Force in five previous games.

The Kingz will also be aiming to revenge a 3-0 first round drubbing when they travel to Melbourne to play Carlton on Friday. This will be the Kingz' last game for four weeks, due to commitments by the New Zealand national team (affecting six Kingz players). Although it's hard to argue against an in-form Carlton, one should not ignore recent away victories by the Kingz against Olympic, Marconi and Adelaide.

It should be a fascinating encounter when Newcastle - undefeated for seven rounds - play league leaders Sydney Olympic on Friday at the Breakers Stadium. Earlier this season the teams played out a 2-2 draw, and the corresponding fixture in Newcastle last season ended 1-1. Longer term history also points to a close game. The teams have met in Newcastle eight times with the Breakers winning three (and scoring 17 goals) to Olympic's two (16 goals). Playing against his previous club, Breakers' keeper Bob Catlin will be lining up for his 300th NSL game.




*Brett Emerton (Sydney Olympic) avoids the Stikers' Glenn Gwynne.*

It should also be an interesting Friday night at North Sydney Oval when the Northern Spirit take on Sydney United. The Spirit have won only twice at home so far this season, with 0-2 (to Brisbane) and 0-3 (to Adelaide) losses in the past two home games - although it must be noted that United have not won away so far. Last season's result - 2-1 to United - is meaningless because no member of that United team will be fronting up against the Spirit this time around. Earlier this season the Spirit got up 2-0 thanks to goals from Robbie Slater and David Seal, but neither of these two can be relied on this weekend due to a niggling injury (Slater) and form loss (Seal). In fact, it may be difficult to find any scorers in this game, with both teams scoring at a rate of less than a goal a game this season so far.

On Saturday night in Brisbane it's Brisbane Strikers versus the Melbourne Knights. The Knights have a decent record in Brisbane - with four wins against the Strikers' two. However, the current form of the Strikers (only one home loss this season), compared with the Knights' (only one away win) points Brisbane's way.

The only Sunday match is in Perth when the Glory take on the Gippsland Falcons. The stubborn Falcons have lost only one of their last six games, although their prospects at Perth Oval are limited considering that the Glory have scored 14 goals in their last four games there. The head-to-head record also suggests a Perth win, with four wins to Perth opposed to two to the Falcons (one draw).

The round 15 game between Marconi Stallions and Parramatta Power has been rescheduled, with a new date to be advised, due to the Power having three members in the Olyroo squad. (The Olyroos are currently involved in a four-nation tournament in Adelaide against Nigeria, Egypt and South Korea. The round 15 game between South Melbourne and Wollongong was played on December 23 (1-1).

# Local 'Roos

***The recent two-match series between Australia and Brazil not only saw most of Australia's high-profile overseas players back home, but also included four locally-based New South Wales players.***

***Paul Goodwin and Fred Legget caught up with Brett Emerton and Pablo Cardozo of Sydney Olympic and Sean Babic and Brad Maloney of Marconi.***

Brett Emerton is no stranger to representative football.

He began his international career as a 16 year old playing for the 1994 Under 17 Joeys, and was also an important member of the Under 20 Young Socceroos team in 1997, both under recently retired, veteran coach, Les Scheinflug. More recently, Brett has been prominent in Raul Blanco's Under 23 Olyroos of which he is also captain.

These teams alone have taken him to far flung and exotic places such as Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador, The Netherlands, Nigeria, England, Japan and Malaysia.

For all that, however, it was still a great thrill to strap on his boots in an Australian dressing room which included the likes of Paul Okon, Mark Viduka, Mark Bosnich and Paul Agostino.

The recent Brazil series was only the second occasion where Brett has experienced a virtual full-strength Socceroo squad, and the Macquarie Fields based midfielder was delighted to be included in new coach Frank Farina's first selection.

While he managed just 20 minutes in the disappointing Sydney game and an even briefer five minutes or so in Melbourne he enjoyed both games and the lead-up enormously.

"The atmosphere was relaxed and enjoyable, and different from my experience with the Socceroos under Terry Venables and Raul Blanco."

His role has evolved over the last few seasons into more of a general midfield one, but once the Socceroo squad was announced Frank Farina met with Emerton's club coach, Branko Culina.

"Frank and Branko decided that I should play out wide, especially on the right, for both

my country and my club and I am happy to be doing that again now where I consider I am at my most effective," explained Emerton.

In the short-term, Brett is aiming for a Top 6 finish for his club, Sydney Olympic, in the current NSL season - an ambition which seems assured based on current form.

Beyond this season, it's no secret that Brett sees the Sydney 2000 games as a springboard to an overseas career.

"I'll be staying around until the Olympic Games at least and then I want to head off overseas to play professionally over there," he said.

" I've had a look around overseas and I liked England and would like to play there, but I don't think I can qualify for a work permit. I might have to settle for either France or Holland, but there's nothing wrong with either of those!

"In Europe, football is everything and I want to be part of all that."

Emerton's Sydney Olympic team mate Pablo Cardozo, was also delighted to be included in a national team for the first time when named as a late addition to the Socceroo squad for the second of the Brazil games in November.

A product of the Canterbury district and the pin-up boy of the Olympic fans, Pablo hopes that his selection for duty, at 27 years of age, means that he now has his foot in the door and his name will remain before Frank Farina.

Prior to being called into the Socceroo squad, Pablo's only representative honours were at State level for NSW schoolboys and an offbeat appearance in the colours of South Australia.

His Socceroo call-up was his most significant honour, even if he merely warmed the bench in Melbourne and did not get called into play. Just being part of the atmosphere was enough to whet his appetite for more.

"The national team is a world apart from the NSL," he laughed.

"Instead of getting to training by yourself and then maybe heading off to the beach when you've finished, everything was taken care of in the Socceroo camp and the players were treated like true professionals," he expanded.

Pablo began his NSL career with Sydney Olympic as an Under 15 and made his first grade debut at 19.

"After I moved to Adelaide I got the chance to play in Europe at Rapid Vienna."'

"It was alright there. Things were going really well but the coach, Ernst Duckupil, was sacked and most of the players were released by the new coach, so I came home again."

"I played more of a link role over there and that's what I'd like to do again as more players there have the experience to play that way. I had to be either one or the other here and striker seemed the best option for me, as I can score goals and that is important."

Cardozo was expected to play a similar role in the national side had he been thrown into the action, but despite not getting a run the smiling Pablo felt that more national duty could lie ahead of him.

He also hopes to go to Spain sometime later in January.

"The 2nd Division club, Cordoba, has looked at a video and they liked what they saw."

Marconi's Sean Babic, who was selected in the original 27 man train on squad for the Brazil series, thought that he would be a mere spectator at the games, having been released from the squad after the final cut.

However, unknown to Sean, doubts over the fitness of Mark Viduka were to mean that the speedy Marconi striker was about to receive an SOS in somewhat bizarre fashion!

"The night before the first Brazil game in Sydney I was playing for Marconi against Northern Spirit at Marconi Stadium. I was fortunate enough to score the only goal in the game and as I was walking off the pitch, Graham Arnold, Spirit boss and assistant Socceroo coach came up to me,

shook my hand, and said 'Be at Star City Casino at eight in the morning, there is an injury to Mark Viduka and you are in the squad!'

"I thought he was joking!

"It was certainly the best news I had heard in a long time, and any plans I had to celebrate scoring the winning goal were put on hold, as I headed straight home."

Sean, while delighted to be back in the squad, didn't really expect to get a run in the first game, but was pitched into the fray with Australia 0-2 down with 20 minutes to go.

" We started off badly in the first game, partly I think because it was the first time the boys had been together in a long time, and I didn't think for a minute I was going

*Pablo Cardoza playing beach ball.*

to get a run as I was still a little sore from playing the night before.

"The game was probably out of our reach when I got the nod to go on, with instructions to 'chase' and that's exactly what I did. We didn't play that crash hot in Sydney, but I think we showed in the next game in Melbourne what we were capable of."

Sean performed the role of 'impact player' once again in Melbourne, this time coming on for Mark Viduka.

"The whole episode was a dream come true for me, and I only hope that I can continue to score enough goals for Marconi to warrant selection in future Socceroo teams.

"Just being involved in the national set up was a real buzz. Playing for your country in front of 50,000 people in Sydney and 85,000 in Melbourne was a fantastic experience, and one I'm anxious to repeat."

If Sean Babic's call up was akin to something in true 'Roy of the Rovers' fashion, Brad Maloney received the news in somewhat more mundane surroundings.

"It was a Tuesday morning and I was doing some survey work right in the middle of the Cumberland Highway in Sydney's west when my mobile phone rang. It was Frank Farina, and he told me that he was calling me into the squad the very next day!

"I was absolutely delighted, and as you can imagine, hastily arranged for a week off work!"

Brad was not named in the original squad, but answered the call as a result of the unavailability of Leeds star, Harry Kewell.

'Bugsy' is no stranger to the international scene, and like many players savours the big time atmosphere.

"The camp was fantastic. As you would expect with some of the top players in Europe in the squad, everything was one hundred per cent professional and focussed, but at the same time there was a great spirit and atmosphere. All the guys were great, and made me feel very much part of the set up right from day one."

Brad was a second half substitute in the opening match in Sydney, but played nearly the entire game in Melbourne.

"I thought we gave a good account of ourselves in Melbourne. After copping a bit of flak from the media after the first game, we were a bit unlucky not to get away with a win. However, the consensus was that it was definitely a good performance, and the commitment from the players was certainly there for all to see. It was a great atmosphere at the MCG, with over 80,000 people there and the players responded accordingly."

Brad has nothing but praise for the skill of his opponents.

"Those two games were easily the fastest two matches I have been involved in throughout my career, without a doubt."

"The Brazilians were technically brilliant on the ball, and I think their skill was probably best demonstrated by the likes of Denilson, who could do absolutely marvellous things with the ball. A couple of times during the game you would think you were in with the chance of making a tackle, but before you even got the chance to react, the ball was gone."

After having marvelled at Denilson's skill, one could have expected Brad to make a bee line for him after the game to indulge in a bit of shirt swapping, but this wasn't on the Marconi skipper's agenda.

"No mate, my Socceroo strips are VERY important to me, and I wasn't going to swap them with anyone!"

...from page 5

season with some niggling injuries but should still figure prominently in the 2000 Golden Boot table.

### Coach's Comment Joe Watson

"We are quietly confident we will be a competitive top five proposition, without being too overconfident."

## LEICHHARDT TIGERS

Coach : Les DeCelis (1st season)
1999 Finishing Position : 7th
In : Les DeCelis (Coach), Zoki Adioski (Bankstown City), James Stubbs-Mills (Northern Spirit), Michael Galluzzo (Marconi), Vuko Tomasevic (Marconi), Andrew Nicol (Ryde City), Andrew Dowling (Parramatta Eagles), Joe Bruni (Marconi), Shaun Woods (Ryde City), Jane Talcevski (Canterbury-Marrickville), Andrew Nolan (Ryde City), Greg Fuchs (Ryde City)
Out : Arno Bertogna (Coach), Frank Mikuletic (Canterbury-Marrickville), Eric Hristodoulou (Dulwich Hill), Sarkis Boudaher (Hadjuk Wanderers), Tom Bazdaric (Parramatta Eagles), Fabio Macolino (Released), Vince Savoca (Sydney United), John Pillemer (Eastern Suburbs)

A changing of the guard at Lambert Park with new coach, Les DeCelis, making a number of changes to the player roster. DeCelis has bought a few of his former Ryde City players across with him and assembles what looks like a strong squad on paper. It seems that scoring goals will be the order of the day as Adioski and Bruni join Karavatakis and Lansdown to battle for the starting spots. It's a forward line that could well lift Leichhardt to the semi-finals. A lot will depend on how quickly DeCelis can get the side the gel.

Player to Watch - Chris Lansdown - Since moving to Leichhardt from the Camden Tigers last season, the pacy striker's form has had more ups and downs than a fiddler's elbow. DeCelis will look to Lansdown to develop a little more consistency in his game and become one of his most productive attacking options in this talented forward line.

### Coach's Comment - Les DeCelis

"The side has been completely rebuilt and with the average age of the squad being about 21, we've taken a long term view to build a side to win a premiership. This club always has high expectations but our aim is to improve on last year and make the five."

## MACARTHUR RAMS

Coach : Brian Dene (2nd Season - took over late in '99 from Casey DeBruin) 1999 Finishing Position : Third (Beaten Semi-Finalists)
In : Graham Goodfellow (Wollongong Wolves), Paul Bentvelzen (Bankstown City), Daniel Cummins (Bundaberg Waves), Chad Bishop (Wollongong Wolves on loan)

Out : Kain Rastall (Sydney United), Trevor Whiddett (Illawarra), John Crawley (Sydney United), Dion Valle (Perth Glory), Jimmy Aschner (Eastern Suburbs), Shane Knight (Central Coast), David Reid (Bonnyrigg White Eagles)

Macarthur had a superb 1999 season but have suffered a number of losses which may harm their chances in 2000. Gone are Rastall, Whiddett, Reid and Knight from the midfield, while sweeper Dion Valle has gone to Perth Glory. Enigmatic striker Jimmy Aschner has also taken his talents to Eastern Suburbs leaving coach Brian Dene with only a semblance of last year's squad. Much will fall to the experienced duo of Martin Bourke and Richard Lloyd in the back two thirds while former Australian Schoolboy goalkeeper Peter Munsie gets his chance with Crawley's departure to Sydney United. Dene is an astute operator and knows his junior squads well, so Rams fans can expect the holes to be filled by some of the Rams impressive junior talent from the lower grades.
Player to Watch - Eric Williams - The envy of many of his peers for his ability to inspire his teammates, there is no tougher player in the Super League than Williams. Either as a striker or an attacking midfielder, Williams is almost the complete footballer. Strong in the air and possessing a deadly shot he is bound to carry a lot of the Rams hopes in 2000.

### Coach's Comment - Brian Dene

"I'm quietly confident we'll finish mid-table. I'd be very happy if we finish top five, especially in my first full season and after losing as many players as we have."

## MANLY-WARRINGAH

Coach : Tony Pezzano (2nd season)
1999 Finishing Position : Division One 1st (Beaten Grand-finalists)
In : Mark Beldham (Eastern Suburbs), David Kuhn (Ryde City), Steve Hickman (Retirement), Keith Long (Ireland)
Out : Matthew Bastian (Queensland), Greg Walley (Retired), Rocco Pappalia (Unknown), Alan Hunter (Retired), Adam Townsend (Unknown)

Having been the form side of last year's competition it was a surprise to see Manly fall at the final hurdle. Losing players like Alan Hunter (injured in pre-season), Greg Walley and Mark Bastian have hit the club badly but as always there are many youngsters willing to step-up. Recruiting utility Keith Long from Ireland, Mark Beldham from Eastern Suburbs and coaxing stopper Steve Hickman out of retirement should the hold the defence and midfield together though the still look a little weak up front. Underestimate a side coached by Tony Pezzano at your own peril, though it appears he will be flat out to make the side a competitive unit in season 2000.
Player to Watch - Keith Long - Having played 500 games in the league of Ireland, Manly are expecting big things from their Irish recruit. With Alan Hunter retiring due to injury, Long will be able to add that vital touch of experience to the Dolphins. At home in any of the key positions he will be a huge asset to a young team coming to terms with a promotion to the Super League.

### Coach's Comment - Tony Pezzano

"I always play to win to the competition but realistically I know we won't."

## PENRITH PANTHERS

Coach: Stan Ackerley (6th Season)
1999 Finishing Position: Division One Fifth (Grand Final Winners)
In : Martin Driene (Fairfield Bulls), Anthony Driene, Stuart Neilson (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Jason Lewis (Macarthur Rams)
Out : (None as yet)

Stan Ackerley is a shrewd operator, and he knows what is required to put together a competitive squad at Super League level. Knowing his talented young squad needed some 'old heads', Ackerley recruited Martin Driene from Fairfield Bulls and Stuart

Neilson from Bonnyrigg to play alongside Chris Ackerley, Danny Hinton and Bob Casserley. Despite this, the side could struggle if these players lose form or fitness. The squad has plenty of talent but they are another team who appear to lack a little depth in the key areas.

Player to Watch - Martin Driene - Driene has been around for what seems like an eternity but he only recently celebrated his 30th birthday. A typically rugged defender his experience at the back will be the cornerstone on which Stan Ackerley will build his defence.

### Coach's Comment - Stan Ackerley

"I'm expecting to finish halfway up the table. Any higher would be a bonus.

If the lads move like they can, and we get a few early results, I don't see why we can't achieve that."

## PARRAMATTA EAGLES

Coach : Roberto Viera (2nd season)

1999 Finishing Position : Fourth (Beaten Grand-Finalists)

In :Tom Bazdaric (Leichhardt Tigers), Scott Xuereb (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Nikolce Joseski (Wollongong Wolves), Daniel Farias (Sutherland Sharks), Alex Trposki (Bankstown City)

Out : Andrew Dowling (Leichhardt Tigers), Sasha Utjesenovic (Parramatta Eagles), Balla Conde (Singapore), Grant Bard (Unknown), Paul O'Grady (Wollongong Wolves)

Parramatta always put an accomplished squad on the park and this year is no exception. Joseski is a quality striker while Bazdaric and Xuereb strengthen an already solid defensive unit. With Jason Holmes between the sticks and Boskovski and Islas in the midfield there seems a lot to like about Viera's squad which seems to boast no obvious weaknesses in any of the key areas. The loss of Grant Brad is more than compensated for by the signing of Nikolce Joseski. With a strong pool of junior talent at the club, there appears to be plenty of young legs to back up over the long season.

Player to Watch - Nikolce Joseski - Roberto Viera has been extremely happy with Joseski's work and professionalism at training since joining from the Wolves. An unhappy last twelve months has seen Joseski on the sidelines recovering from a leg injury but in recent trial games he looks committed, if not inspired, and has impressed all at his new club. As one of the most talented strikers in Super League he looks set to make a huge impact for the Eagles.

### Coach's Comment - Roberto Viera

"The team looks a lot better than last year, even though we have lost a lot of players."

## ST GEORGE SAINTS

Coach : John Sentas (1st season)

1999 Finishing Position :

In : John Sentas (Coach), Achilleas Markopoulos (Sutherland), Les Bihari (Ryde City), Nick Boliantis (Stanmore Hawks), George Maglis (Eastern Suburbs), Max Sevares (Eastern Suburbs), Cameron Watson (Brisbane Lions), Elias Augerinos (UTS Olympic), Michael Kladis (Marconi), Bill Petrovski (Rockdale City Suns), Jim Bakis (UTS Olympic), Evangelos Petratos (UTS Olympic), Stacy Alogdelis (Hurstville City Minotaurs), Manuel Papageorgiou (UTS Olympic), Mathew Galea (UTS Olympic), Albein Reinhart (France), Alex Leros (NSWIS)

Out : Leo Carle (Released), Paul Carter (Released), Trinity Allen (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), Alex Araujo (Released), Jose Bello-Amigo (Canterbury-Marrickville)

Former UTS Olympic youth coach, John Sentas, has been charged by the club to rebuild following its promotion to Super League. With a strong Olympic influence Sentas has recruited a good mix of youth and experience to a squad which could well surprise many teams. Mark Brennan, a former English professional, will be the club's skipper while in midfield Augerinos, Markopoulos and Petratos will be key players. Les Bihari is a quality goalkeeper while up front Stefan Janic will carry much of the side's attacking hopes. With a new squad it could be a slow start for John Sentas and his team, but expect this well-rounded side to go very close to a top five spot in the run home.

Player to watch - Achilleas Markopoulos - An enigma if ever there was one, Archie can often be his own worst enemy. At times his ball skills and speed can blow a defence clean apart while on other days he'll scratch around like an old chook and look just as bad. Archie is a talent and given his opportunity with some experienced players around him he is potentially a match winner.

### Coach's Comment - John Sentas

"I'm quite confident we'll make the five and with the side I've got I'd be very disappointed if we didn't. That might be a big statement to make, but I do believe in this squad."

## SUTHERLAND SHARKS

Coach : John Lavin (3rd season)

1999 Finishing Position : 11th

In : Clint Harrod (Sutherland Premier League), Mathew Merrals (Year Off), Philip Wurth (Moorebank Sports), Con Paradisis (Stanmore Hawks), Grant McDonald (Rockdale City Suns), Ali Salim (Arncliffe Scots), Hakan Carlsson (Sweden)

Out : Achilleas Markopoulos (St. George), Daniel Farias (Parramatta Eagles)

Sutherland will again field what is best described as a solid hardworking team, under the watchful eye of John Lavin. The recruitment of Hakan Carlsson, a Swedish born midfielder, is a major plus to a young side looking for experience. Philip Wurth from Moorebank will strengthen the defensive unit alongside Clint Harrod and some of Lavin's young guns like Dejan Ristovski and Adam Daley who will be groomed to take the next step in their careers. There are also persistent rumours that livewire midfielder Levi Stephen could be back and his contribution in the midfield would be an added bonus. The Sharks will again struggle up front to score goals but may well cause a few shocks when sides come to visit Seymour Shaw Park.

Player To Watch - Dennis Olla - Since arriving at Sutherland last year to fill the void left by Paul Henderson, Olla has been the answer to John Lavin's prayers. Since making his Super League debut with Canterbury in the early 90s Olla almost threw the game away when a succession of clubs and injuries threatened to derail his career. Back bigger then ever, his organisation at the back and his reading of the game are just what this young squad needs to stay competitive.

### Coach's Comment - John Lavin

"We'll hold our own and hopefully do a lot better than we did last year. We have a slightly stronger squad and have a bit more depth which will help. A midtable finish would be fantastic."

# AMERICAN EXPRESS CARD TO HELP FUND DEVELOPMENT OF GAME

***The NSW Soccer Federation and American Express have kicked off a new program for supporters - the NSW Soccer American Express Credit Card.***

Every time Card members use the NSW Soccer American Express Credit Card, a portion of the expenditure is provided directly to NSW Soccer, to assist the development programs for males and females.

"The revenue generated as a result of soccer fans and supporters using the Card will go towards supporting the training and skills development of talented young men and women players," explained Peter Gray, President of the NSW Soccer Federation.

Gray said that this, in turn, helps Australiaís efforts on the international football stage.

"NSW players are always well-represented in national teams ñ whether they be the Joeys, the Young Socceroos, the Olyroos, the Socceroos or the Matildas.

"We see it as a responsibility to produce world-class players for New South Wales and Australia. It is one we take very seriously and it is one of our top priorities as a Federation."

Gray said that whatís good for New South Wales soccer is good for Australian soccer, and vice-versa.

"Weíre a big State with the largest number of players, so we have to play our part. On the other hand, success in our national teams is also an important component of growth and development at grass roots level which is critical to the ongoing success and prominence of the game in Australia."

Supporters who take up the NSW Soccer American Express card will benefit in other ways too.

Mr Barry Arnold, Senior Vice President Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific, American Express International said that there is no annual Card membership fee for the first year.

"For the first six months, members can also take advantage of an 8.95% pa introductory interest rate by transferring balances from higher-rate credit cards to their NSW Soccer American Express Card.

"We believe American Express offers the best affinity card program in Australia and we look forward to providing soccer supporters and fans with the superior benefits and service for which we are known worldwide," said Mr Arnold.

# 2000 Trials

- 1st Grade and Under 19s
- WOMEN'S State League Division 1

Sunday 9 January, 2.00pm-4.00pm
Wednesday 12 January, 6.00pm-8.00pm
Sunday 16 January, 2.00pm-4.00pm

Heffron Park, Corner of Fitzgerald Avenue and Bunnerong Road, Maroubra

For more information, call Peter on 0413 422 201.

# YOUNG TALENT TIME

***Even those who don't follow our game in this country, know that Australia's Under 17 team - the Joeys - achieved what no other Australian soccer team has done - they reached the final of a World Cup tournament, when they met Brazil in the FIFA World Under 17 Cup in Auckland in November last year.***

***We also all know what happened.***

***After holding the might of Brazil to a 0-0 draw for 120 minutes, Australia lost on a penalty shootout, 8-7, to win the Silver Medal.***

***Binesh Mudaliar talked with the Joeys Assistant Coach, and NSW Institute of Sport coach, Kelly Cross, about preparing elite young players for the 1999 Under 17 national squad, the lead-up to the tournament and the tournament itself.***

In 1989-90, an Intensive Training Centre (ITC) was established at the State Soccer Centre, Valentine Park, headquarters of the New South Wales Soccer Federation in conjunction with what is now known as the NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS).

The initial squad of a dozen highly talented 11 and 12 year-olds featured current Leeds United and Socceroo superstar Harry Kewell, Olyroo captain Brett Emerton, Carlisle United striker Paul Harries, and National League first-graders Archie Thompson (Carlton), Kain Rastall (Sydney United), and Paul Reid (Wollongong).

During the 1990s, the NSWIS and the NSW Soccer Federation have worked together to maintain a 'production line' that is the envy of youth academies around the world.

The fact that seven NSWIS-trained players were selected in the Joeys Squad for the 1999 Under-17 World Cup in New Zealand is a testament to the player development methods practiced by the NSWIS.

## THE FRAMEWORK FOR JOEYS SELECTION

But from the 140,000 or so registered junior players in NSW, how do the likes of Mark Byrnes, Shane Cansdell-Sherriff, Anthony Doumanis, Bradley Groves, Shane Lockhart, Dylan MacAllister, and Jess Van Stratten rise above the pack and earn the famous Green and Gold jersey?

"It all begins at the club and junior football level until 10 years of age," explained Kelly Cross.

Standouts at this age progress through to junior association representative teams in the under-11 and under-12 age groups.

"The next step is the Pepsi Super Youth League. Eye-catching players from this competition participate simultaneously in the decentralised zone program for under-13s to under-16s.

"For example, Jess Van Stratten trained in the zone program that incorporated the Central Coast.

"From the various zone programs, a NSW State team is selected to compete at the national championships."

Kelly Cross said that in 1996 and 1997, Byrnes (defender), Cansdell-Sherriff (defender), Doumanis (midfielder), Groves (midfielder), Lockhart (defender), MacAllister (striker), and Van Stratten (goalkeeper), were all selected for NSW, with only Doumanis unable to play in 1997 through injury.

Prior to the 1997 nationals, Cansdell-Sherriff, Doumanis, and MacAllister were inducted into the NSWIS while Van Stratten was involved in regular goalkeeper training at the State Soccer Centre. Following the 1997 nationals, Byrnes, Groves, Lockhart, and Van Stratten were also officially accepted as NSWIS players.

As a result of outstanding displays in the 1997 national championship, most of the players above - with the exception of Anthony Doumanis and Dylan MacAllister - were ever-present in training camps and tours as Les Scheinflug prepared the Joeys for the 1999 Under-17 World Cup. Once Doumanis overcame injury, his place was cemented from the second training camp onwards while a superb striking display for NSWIS against the Joeys was required by MacAllister to ensure his place in Les Scheinflug's squad from early 1998.

## THE OCEANIA QUALIFIERS

In May 1999, the Joeys headed to Fiji for the Oceania Qualifiers for the Under-17 World Cup.

As expected, Australia's elite posted cricket-like scores against the minnows from the Pacific. In seven qualifying games, the Joeys blasted 55 goals with midfielder Anthony Doumanis' four goals against American Samoa on May 7th being the individual highlight of the Qualifiers for the NSW contingent.

With hosts New Zealand qualifying automatically for the Under-17 World Cup, Fiji rose to challenge Australia in the final of the Oceania Qualifiers.

In front of a crowd of 5,000 at Churchill Park, Lautoka, the Joeys accounted for the home side 5-0 with Jess Van Stratten, Shane Lockhart, and Mark Byrnes playing full games while Shane Cansdell-Sherriff and Dylan MacAllister found the back of the net and took their tournament tally to three and four goals respectively.

## NEXT STOP...THE PERSIAN GULF

The Joeys met Bahrain in a two-leg tussle in August, with the winner filling the last spot in Group C at the World Cup tournament.

Goals from Werder Bremen striker Joe Di Iorio and skipper Mark Byrnes saw the Joeys record a 2-1 victory in the first-leg against their Middle East opponents at Canberra's Bruce Stadium on August 14th. A fortnight later at the National Stadium in Bahrain, Adelaide City forward, Louis Brain, sealed a 3-1 aggregate win shortly before half-time - and the Joeys had booked their ticket across the Tasman for the 1999 Under-17 World Cup finals.

"In itself, that was an achievement for the players and the coaching staff because a few so-called experts were beginning to write us off at this stage.

"The 55 goals in the Oceania Qualifiers and 2-1 home win were not seen as good enough by some to get us to New Zealand," said Kelly Cross.

In the closing minutes of the second-leg fixture, in a bid to hold out the Bahrainis, Les Scheinflug replaced Shane Cansdell-Sherriff with another NSWIS product in Gavin Hartge while Tallan Martin was a non-playing substitute during the two-game series.

## THE TOUR OF SOUTH AMERICA

With the knowledge that the Joeys were to face Brazil, Germany, and Mali in the group stages in New Zealand, a tour of Uruguay, Chile, and Argentina was arranged by Les Scheinflug to give his young charges match practice against strong opposition.

By this time, only Anthony Doumanis and Shane Lockhart remained with the NSWIS. Bradley Groves and Shane Cansdell-Sherriff were playing youth football with English club Leeds United, while Mark Byrnes, Jess Van Stratten, and Dylan MacAllister were training with the first-grade squads at Parramatta Power, Northern Spirit, and Sydney Olympic respectively.

Following a 1-1 draw and a 2-1 loss to Uruguay's Under-17 side, the Joeys recorded a convincing 7-0 win against club side Nacional with Mark Byrnes scoring a brace. The party travelled west to Chile where games against several club sides had been organised. Byrnes continued his fine goal-scoring form in Australia's 4-2 victory against Colo Colo, while matches against Universidad de Chile and Universidad Catolica yielded a 1-1 draw and a 2-1 loss respectively.

"The results in Chile were very promising for us. They are all very strong club sides at all levels, particularly Colo Colo and Universidad Catolica," Kelly continued.

As November approached, the Joeys crossed the border into Argentina for the final three matches of their South American sojourn.

Shane Cansdell-Sherriff and Dylan MacAllister got their names on the scoresheet while midfielder Bradley Groves made his tour debut as Australia cruised to a 5-0 win against an Argentine Southern XI at Mar del Plata. Following a 1-0 victory over Independiente, MacAllister and Byrnes scored in the Joeys 3-3 draw with the Argentina Under-18 team in early

November.

In their nine-match tour of Uruguay, Chile, and Argentina, the Joeys won four games, drew three, and lost two with a 24-11 for and against record.

## THE 1999 UNDER-17 WORLD CUP

The city of Christchurch in New Zealand's South Island was the venue for matches in Group C.

Australia's opening game on November 12th was played against pre-tournament favourites, Brazil.

This was the fourth meeting between the two countries at Under-17 World Cup level with the record standing at 2-1 to the South Americans. Playing in difficult conditions due to heavy rain, the Joeys found themselves two goals down with only twenty-five minutes remaining in the match. Dylan MacAllister teamed-up with AIS and Carlton striker Joshua Kennedy to provide targets in the forward line and slowly Australia worked themselves back into the contest. In the 78th minute MacAllister cracked an eight-metre volley past Rubinho following enterprising work from Joe Di Iorio and Louis Brain. However, this was Australia's only success on the day as Brazil triumphed 2-1.

Germany, fresh from a training camp at the State Soccer Centre, Valentine Park, would be the next opponent for Les Scheinflug's team.

The Joeys had just the one prior meeting with Germany in a World Cup. In China '85, a goal by South Melbourne ace Paul Trimboli gave Australia the most slender of wins. However, the glory of 1985 seemed light years away as Leonhard Haas put his country in front after just nine minutes. With prospects of advancing to the next round appearing slim, and the clock ticking away, a Shane Cansdell-Sherriff free-kick in the 65th minute found AIS and Brisbane Strikers midfielder Wayne Srhoj on the left flank and his cross thudded off the chest of Thomas Hitzlsperger and into his own net. With their tails up, the Joeys pressed forward again and again. Their inspirational leader Mark Byrnes sealing a great come-from-behind victory in the 70th minute after his close range shot evaded Dennis Eilhoff in the German goal.

The final game of Group C saw Australia take on Mali. A one-on-one goal by VIS forward Scott McDonald in the 23rd minute gave the Joeys a 1-0 victory and also top spot in Group C.

Onto the quarter-final stage and a meeting with Qatar - who had also spent three weeks in training at Valentine Park. In Ecuador '95, goals from Harry Kewell and current Manchester City striker Danny Allsopp ensured a 3-0 victory against the Qataris. In 1999, the great team spirit developed on the nine-match tour of South America and a superb shot by Joe Di Iorio in the 55th minute from the edge of the penalty area gave the Joeys passage to the semi-finals for the first-time in seven World Cup attempts.

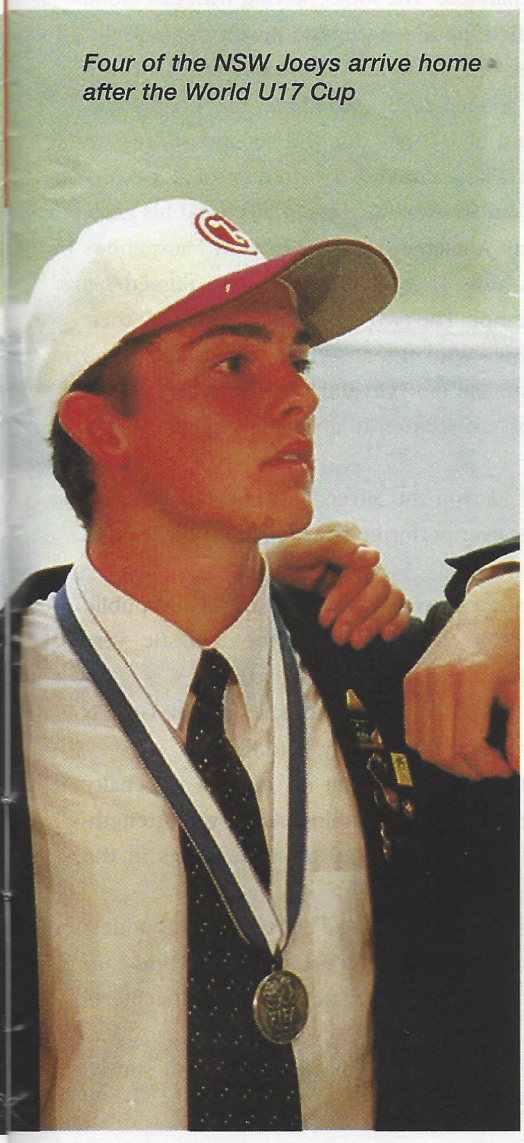
Australia's semi-final opponents would be the highly impressive United States team.

"Like Australian youngsters, Americans are natural athletes and they had a good, strong side. They also had a side which had lived, played and dreamed together for 18 months or more and on which the Americans had spent millions in preparing them for this tournament and beyond.

"In terms of dollars spent, it was similar to the difference between Manchester United and South Melbourne meeting in the World Club Championship!"

SASI defender Aaron Goulding provided his side with dream start in the 3rd minute and Scott McDonald scored his second goal of the tournament ten minutes before the interval to give the Joeys a handy 2-0 lead.

However, the Americans came back hard. In the 36th minute Landon Donovan



*Four of the NSW Joeys arrive home after the World U17 Cup*

***Kelly Cross, delivers his verdict on how the NSW contingent of the 1999 Silver Medallists performed.***

MARK BYRNES: Played all 6 games and scored the winner against Germany. 100% presence. A true captain. Great athlete-strong and aggressive marker but can also play. Very dangerous at free-kicks and corners.

SHANE CANSDELL-SHERRIFF: Played in 5 games. Flat in the final. But good, strong defender and a great crosser of the ball. Fast, physical player.

ANTHONY DOUMANIS: Not used in NZ. Very good dribbler, surprisingly strong on the ball for a small boy. Not afraid to take players on.

BRADLEY GROVES: Played in 3 games in the earlier part of the tournament. Good technique and vision, makes penetrating forward runs.

SHANE LOCKHART: Not used in NZ. Good sweeper, reads the game well, gives sound info and is a strong tackler.

DYLAN MACALLISTER: Played in all 6 games and scored in the first game against Brazil. Runs all day. Wins a lot of the ball in the air, competes for everything. Deceptively good on his feet for a big boy.

JESS VAN STRATTEN: Played all 6 games and kept 3 clean-sheets. Reliable, committed, brave, tough, and a good organiser. Great shot-stopper, excellent with one-on-one situations and penalties.

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beat two defenders to score and Oguchi Onyewu levelled proceedings with a 52nd minute-header. The teams would remain deadlocked at 2-2 through the remainder of the second-half and sudden-death extra-time. By coincidence, the only other meeting at this level between the two countries, in Scotland '89, had also finished in a 2-2 tie.

On this particular occasion, penalties were required to separate the sides. Jess Van Stratten's save from DaMarcus Beasley and D.J. Countess' block of a Wayne Srhoj kick saw the match head into sudden-death penalties. When American captain Steve Cutler blasted his kick over the top of Van Stratten's bar, the Joeys were 7-6 victors and would meet the Brazilians for the right to wear the coveted Gold Medal.

The World Cup final was held at Auckland's North Harbour Stadium on November 27th. Mark Byrnes, Shane Cansdell-Sherriff, Dylan MacAllister, and Jess Van Stratten were selected in the starting line-up while Bradley Groves, Anthony Doumanis, and Shane Lockhart were among the substitutes.

The top two sides in the world at the under-17 level could not be separated. The Joeys, playing with discipline and heart, nullified the much-vaunted Brazilians.

When Greek referee, Kyros Vassaras, blew his whistle at the end of sudden-death extra-time, the combatants were still locked at 0-0 and for the second successive game, the Australians entered the lottery of a penalty shootout. Jess Van Stratten once again displayed his heroics to the world. A magnificent save to deny Marquinhos kept the Joeys alive after Mark Byrnes had missed his side's initial attempt. The two teams each converted their next six attempts. With the score at 7-7, Rubinho saved from South Australian Ian Fyfe and Wellington stepped-up to beat a gallant Van Stratten to give his country the ultimate prize.

The Joeys had won the Silver Medal and in doing so became the best-ever performed Australian soccer team in history.

They galvanised Australia's sporting media and public and were soccer's contribution to the fantastic year enjoyed by Australia's sporting teams.

"To say we would have loved to have got the Gold is the understatement of the century," said Kelly.

"It's very tough to lose, but to lose in a penalty shootout is even tougher. If nothing else, it will strengthen the resolve of those who go on with things in the game.

"In the meantime, we've got to be realistic and honest and say that to get the Silver Medal at a FIFA World Cup championship is a significant and substantial achievement.

"All of our players should be proud, and so should Australian football followers."

Continental

# ENGLISH FA SETS BLUEPRINT FOR Women's Soccer

In September 1999, the New South Wales Soccer Federation recruited Helen Jevons as the Manager for Female Participation, as part of the Federation's drive to ensure that soccer is the sport of first choice for women and girls in the 21st century.

England's total football culture in the 1960s saw Helen playing the round ball code from a young age in the alleyways of Birmingham. The Jevons' family support of Aston Villa FC sealed Helen's love of the world game and by the time she was 11, Helen had graduated to the world of competitive football in the junior female leagues of Birmingham.

After gaining a Bachelor of Economics degree from Manchester Metropolitan University, Helen worked in the community arts sector in Manchester for six years before commuting between

Manchester and Cramond College of Physical Education in Edinburgh, to complete a Masters degree in Sport Management. In early 1989, Helen also added the FA Preliminary Coaching Award to her achievements.

Helen subsequently accepted a position with the Bristol City Council as a Sports Development Officer for Young People, a role which involved encouraging girls and boys into sport.

"From our research we identified which sports children would prefer to play and then went to the appropriate schools and promoted these sports. We also worked on how best to create the link between involvement in these sports at a school level and involvement in these sports at a club level."

In 1990 the English FA's Coaching and Education Department created three new full-time positions for Development Officers in the Northern, Midlands, and Southern regions. Based in Nottingham, Helen was appointed Development Officer for the Midlands region.

Working closely with her colleagues in the Northern and Southern offices, Helen's task was to encourage girls and women into the world of football as players, match officials, and coaches.

"The FA research showed that quite a large number of girls who were introduced to soccer did not take up the sport because the structures did not exist for them to play actively. Research from other countries showed that significant growth in participation numbers occurred when girls soccer was promoted within existing leagues and clubs. So the FA planned taster sessions in schools, coaching after school, small-sided matches, and then finally dovetailed into existing leagues and clubs to create regular local girls' competition."

Helen adds that an important element was the production of a manual entitled the 'Absolute Beginners Guide to Soccer'.

Targeting mainly female primary school teachers, this manual aimed to make teachers more comfortable with football activities when taking class. Another innovation was women-only refereeing and coaching courses which were created to assist women to feel more comfortable in participating in a women's-only football course.

**The immediate future includes the Australia Cup match between Australia and Sweden at North Sydney Oval this Friday (7 January).**

Helen was appointed to the role of Women's Football Co-ordinator at the FA in 1994 where her role was to oversee all aspects of the women's game in England from grass roots development through to the National Team.

In the seven years from 1990, over 40 girls' leagues had been formed in England, with attendance by women in Coaching and Leadership courses also increasing by over 500% in the same period. By 1996-97 there were 21,500 female players from 1,350 affiliated clubs compared with 7,000 female players from 263 clubs in 1989.

Helen left England in 1997 to take up a position as Executive Officer for Women's Cricket New South Wales.

Since joining the NSWSF, Helen has been familiarising herself with the structures in place for female participation in New South Wales. Her priorities include a range of activities aimed at encouraging interest and participation in women's soccer.

Helen is planning a series of initiation programs for school-aged girls to play more regularly in local clubs and leagues. She will also introduce ëtaster sessions' in schools ñ used so successfully in Britain ñ and will encourage existing clubs and leagues to create girls' teams and girls' leagues.There will also be Gala Days where coaching clinics and small-sided games are featured.

The Federation is also holding a Symposium on Girls and Women's Soccer in February.

The immediate future includes the Australia Cup match between Australia and Sweden at North Sydney Oval this Friday (7 January).

"The Matildas' game against Sweden will be a tremendous match. We hope that as many people as possible will come along and see what a terrifically skillful game women's football is."

Helen remains adamant that focusing on the on-field achievements of the Matildas has greater long-term advantages than publicity gimmicks and regards women's soccer in the United States as a system to aspire to.

"The recent Women's World Cup held in the USA has helped tremendously in raising the profile of the female game worldwide. The championships set new benchmarks, not only in terms of the high level of technique and skill displayed by the athletes, but also the response of the media and general public."

The 1999 World Cup was the best-ever supported women's sporting event and the USA women's soccer team recently won the Sports Illustrated ëSportswomen of the Year' award.

"This is the level of recognition we aim for women's soccer in Australia also."

Helen Jevons can be contacted at the NSWSF on 02 9629 1800 or
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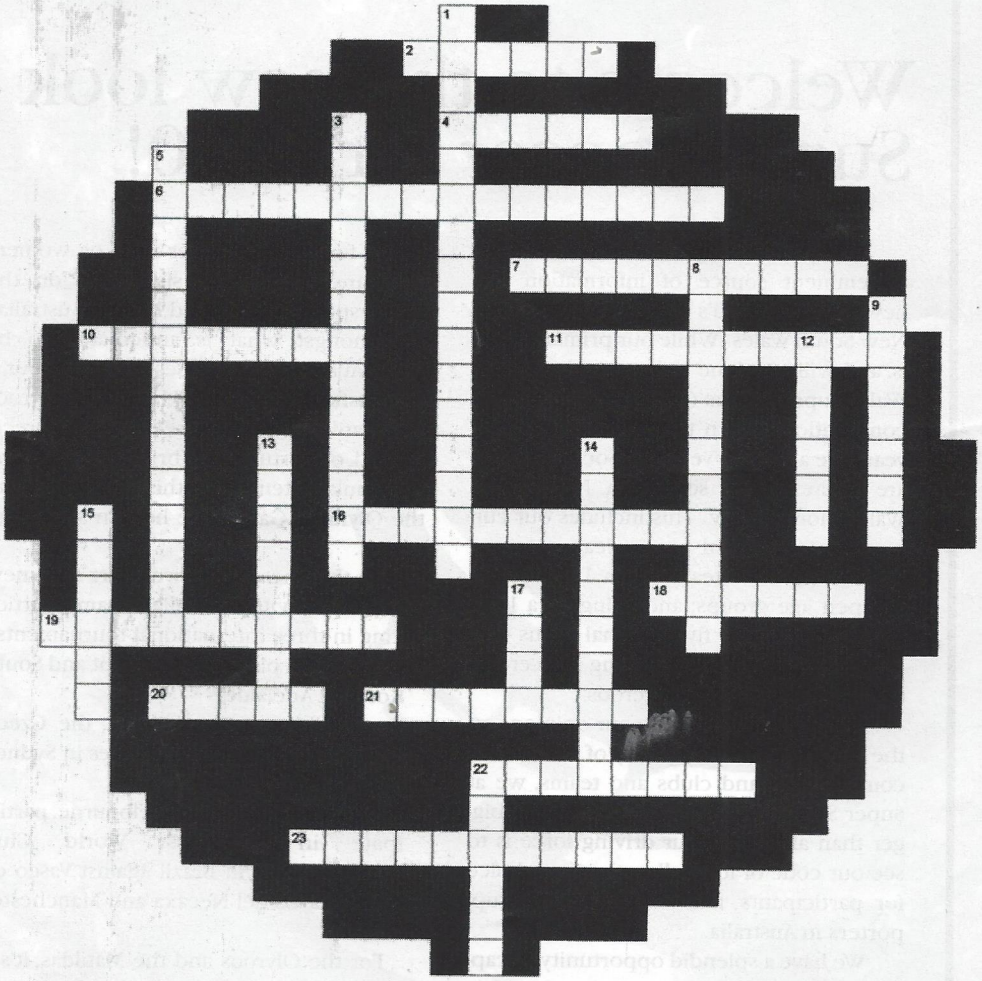
# SUPER SOCCER CROSSWORD

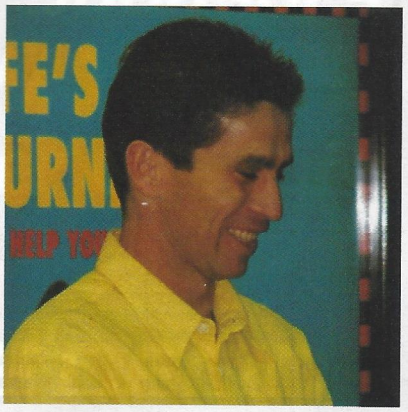


## DOWN

1. Where do Adelaide Force play their home games? (2 words)
3. What is the name of the stadium that is the Brisbane Strikers' home ground? (2 words)
5. Which Super League team finished at the bottom of the table in the 1999 season? (2 words)
8. What are Stanmore Hawks colours? (2 words)
9. Who scored the second goal for the St George in the Grade 21, Division One, major semi-final in 1999?
12. Which sea do the Kingz FC have to cross to play their away games?
13. Which New South Welshman holds the record for the most number of goals scored in the NSL? (2 words)
14. What is the name of Manly-Warringah's home ground? (2 words)
15. Which country hosted the 1986 World Cup?
17. Sydney-based striker, Norm _____ .
22. For which Belgian club did Frank Farina play?

## ACROSS

2. How many minutes in a soccer match?
4. Manchester United are also known as the "Red _____"
6. Who scored the golden goal for Parramatta Eagles in the 1999 Preliminary Final? (2 words)
7. Who coached Blacktown City's Super League side in 1999? (2 words)
10. In which 1974 international tournament did the Socceroos participate?
11. Which team finished on top of the Grade 21 Super League table at the end of the regular season?
16. Where do AC united play their home games?
18. In which English city is Arsenal based?
19. It is important to have a good "_____ _____" to control the ball and maintain possession.
20. Soccer is sometimes called the "_____ ball game".
21. Who holds the record for playing the most number of games for Sydney United? (surname only)
22. When a player intentionally passes the ball to their goalkeeper, and the 'keeper picks the ball up, this infringement is known as a _____ .
23. For which English Premier League club does Harry Kewell play?



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# Editorial

## Welcome to the new look Super Soccer for 2000!

Our aim with Super Soccer is to be the pre-eminent source of information and news on the world's greatest game here in New South Wales. While our primary focus is, and will continue to be, the New South Wales Super League (and other State-based competitions when they start later in the year), we also believe Super Soccer readers are interested in soccer in New South Wales more widely. This includes our current seven national soccer league teams; our various State teams from 14s through to open age groups; and bringing a local perspective to our five national teams - the Matildas, the Joeys, the Young Socceroos, the Olyroos and the Socceroos.

While we all may have our opinions on the relative value and quality of the various competitions and clubs and teams, we at Super Soccer believe that the game is bigger than all of us. Our driving force is to see our code of football as the first choice for participants, fans and corporate supporters in Australia.

We have a splendid opportunity to capitalise on the impact of the Olympic Games in September.

Soccer is the only code of football played at the Olympic Games and, for the first time at this Games, it is also being played by women. Although the Olympic Games are not the premier competition in world football for either men or women, they are nonetheless significant on the world sporting stage and here in Australia.

Amongst what is anticipated to be many Australian successes in September, a successful campaign by both the Olyroos and Matildas should be seen as an unprecedented opportunity in bringing the game to popular attention in this country, where the Olympic Games are held in such high regard.

In the meantime, we start the new Millennium with Australian teams participating in three international tournaments:

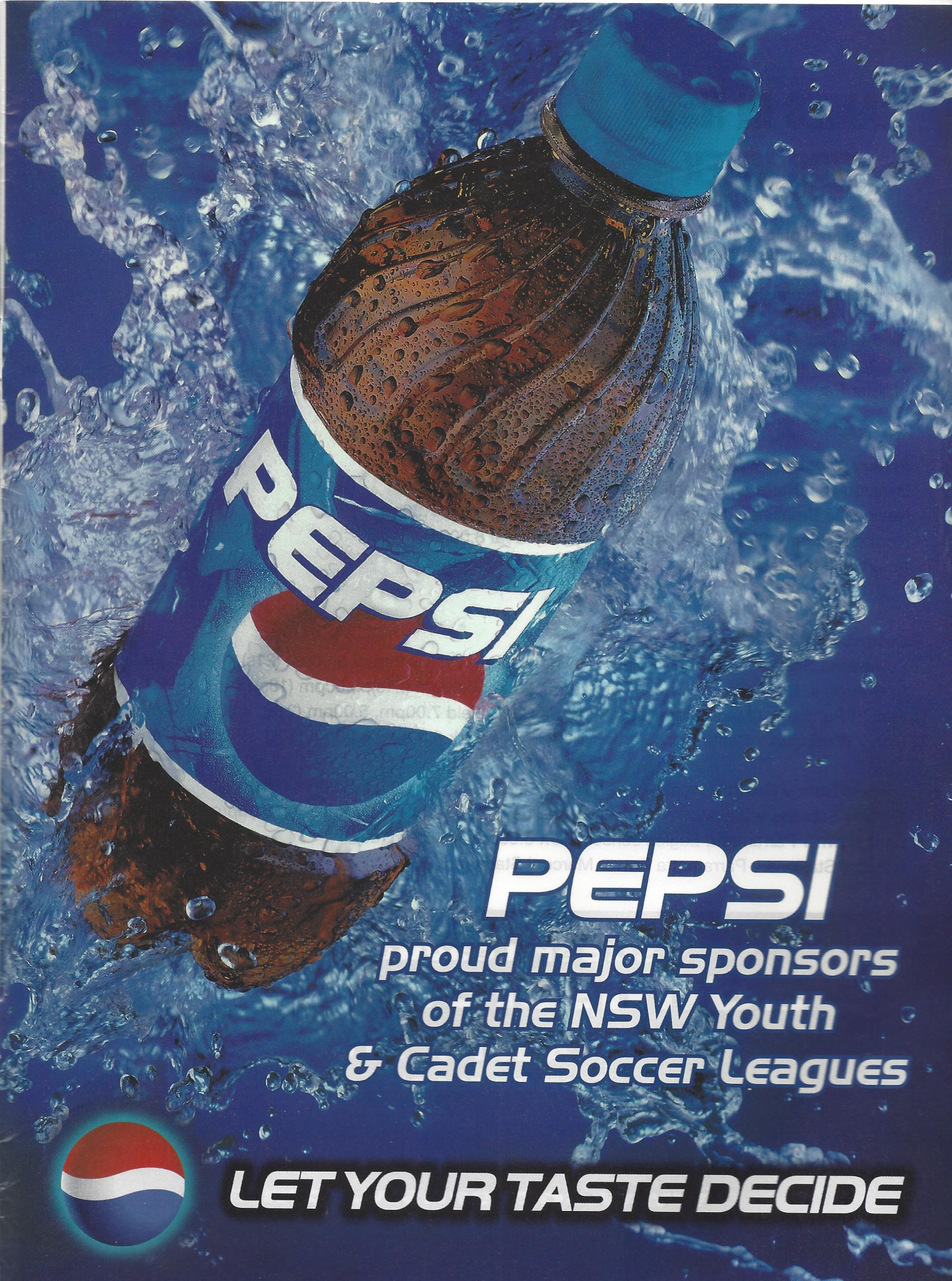
- the Olyroos play Nigeria, Egypt and South Korea in Adelaide;
- the Matildas meet Sweden, the Czech Republic and the United States in Sydney and Melbourne; and
- NSL champions, South Melbourne, participate in the first World Club Championship in Brazil against Vasco da Gama, Rayos del Necaxa and Manchester United.

For the Olyroos and the Matildas, it's a dress rehearsal and a good workout before September. For South Melbourne, it's the real thing - and we hope they do themselves and Australian football proud.

From all at Super Soccer, best wishes for 2000 and enjoy the New Year of soccer ahead.

Bonnie Mersiades

*Jes Van Stratten at full stretch for Australia in the World U17 Cup.*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LET YOUR TASTE DECIDE

# GAMES IN NSW THIS WEEK

# At a glance

There's a feast of football on every weekend in Sydney and surrounding area.
Here's a quick guide to the Super League 2000, NSL and international games this week.

For detailed information on Super League 2000, see inside!

**Wednesday 5 January 2000**
Manly Warringah v Canterbury Marrickville
Cromer Park - 6.00pm (18s)

**Friday 7 January 2000**
Bankstown v Parramatta Eagles Jensen Park 6.30pm (18s)
Newcastle Breakers v Sydney Olympic Breakers Stadium 7.30pm
Northern Spirit v Sydney United North Sydney Oval 8.00pm
Australia (Matildas) v Sweden North Sydney Oval 6.00pm

**Saturday 8 January 2000**
Sutherland Sharks v Leichhardt Tigers Seymour Shaw Park 7.00pm, 5.00pm (21s), 3.00pm (18s)
St George v Bonnyrigg St George Stadium 7.00pm, 5.00pm (21s), 3.00pm (18s)
Penrith Panthers v Macarthur Rams Andrews Road Field 7.00pm, 5.00pm (21s), 3.00pm (18s)
Manly Warringah v Canterbury Marrickville Cromer Park 6.00pm, 4.00pm (21s) Sunday 9 January 2000

Fairfield Bulls v Central Coast Nineveh Field 7.00pm, 5.00pm (21s), 3.00pm (18s)
Eastern Suburbs v Blacktown City David Phillips Field 7.00pm, 5.00pm (21s), 3.00pm (18s)
Bankstown v Parramatta Eagles Jensen Park 6.00pm, 4.00pm (18s)
Marconi Stallions v Parramatta Power Marconi Stadium 5.00pm

## Super League 2000
## admission prices

**Adult: $10**
**Concession: $5**
**16 & under: $2**

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